

MPs' critical report may end building of Concorde

The Commons Public Accounts Committee gave the Concorde project another push towards cancellation yesterday. It said the cost of building the aircraft was so much higher than the sale price that if the present production programme was reversed, irrespective of any big new order being won, the Government would lose at least £200m on production costs alone.

'£200m loss even if more aircraft sold'

Arthur Reed, Conservative MP, said the Commons Public Accounts Committee's report was a "major blow" to the Concorde project. He said the committee had found that the cost of building the aircraft was so much higher than the sale price that if the present production programme was reversed, irrespective of any big new order being won, the Government would lose at least £200m on production costs alone.

Mr Lance gives up fight to keep budget job

Washington, Sept 21—Mr Bert Lance, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, resigned today after weeks of controversy over his private banking practices and personal finances.

Mr Lance's decision to give up the battle with his Senate critics was announced by President Carter at a nationally televised news conference in the White House.

Mr Lance gives up fight to keep budget job

Mr Lance said he had accepted the resignation with the greatest sense of regret and sorrow. "He's a good man," the President said. "Nothing that I have heard or read has shaken my belief in Bert's ability or his integrity," Mr Carter said.

Under fire in Lebanon battle with Israel-backed forces

From Robert Fisk
Ib el Saqi, southern Lebanon
Sept 21

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For almost a minute, the bullets raked across the houses on the other side of the road, biting into the stonework and sending chips of plaster and concrete into the air. One round smashed pieces of wood off a telegraph pole six yards away at the level of our heads, and several more passed between us and the pole with a loud whizzing sound that made you want to panic.

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Tories ready for 'eve of battle' conference

By David Wood
Political Editor

For what virtually all Westminster politicians believe will turn out to be the last round of party conferences before the next general election the leaders of the Conservative Party mass party organisation appeared yesterday to see no difficulties in dressing the shop window with policies and debates to their liking.

Introducing in London, the agenda for the annual conference, which this year will run in Blackpool from October 11 to 14, Sir Charles Johnston, chairman of the national union executive, and Mr David Sells, who is to be the conference chairman, found to their faint surprise that no left-wing journalists were on hand this year to suggest that the Conservative conference is rigged and undemocratic because awkward motions have been ignored or party differences blurred.

Aggressive left-wing questioning of the morality of the Conservative conference has for years been an autumn ritual, in spite of all the evidence that there has never been much to choose on democratic lines between any of the main conferences and the procedures followed. Lord Thorneycroft, the party chairman, and Mr Angus Maude, the deputy chairman, sat in yesterday as party managers and had an easy run.

To prove that this is the expected pre-election Conservative conference, records have been broken. All told, 1,516 motions were put in by the rank-and-file associations, and for the first time, thanks to the reorganization that affiliates Scottish Conservatives with the English and Welsh, 6,631 delegates will be eligible to attend, on the basis of fixed representation for constituencies and other party organizations.

The total of motions is always taken to indicate what is obsessing the constituency and area rank and file. In order of weight, the principal issues this year are: employment and industrial relations (198 motions); economic policy and recognition of the EEC.

Continued on page 2, col 4



Terrorist tuition: Ulster Defence Association men in the special category compounds of the Maze prison, Northern Ireland, receiving instruction in the use of firearms from a fellow prisoner. The photograph is a still from film shot by UDA men and included in Life Behind the Wire, a programme being shown to-night on Thames Television. Staff Reporter writes. The film, which was smuggled out of the prison, shows dozens of men in paramilitary uniform parading, drilling, and receiving lectures and instruction in bomb-making, sniping and ambushing techniques. About 350 republicans and almost 300 "loyalists" live in the special compounds at the Maze. They take orders only from their own commanding officers. Prison officers may even speak to a prisoner without the permission of the man's commanding officer. Still pictures from the IRA compounds make clear that the prisoners there have much the same set-up. The programme explores the history of special category prisoners, a status conceded by Mr William Whitelaw in 1972, and now regretted by both Labour and Conservative politicians. Since March last year the Government and the courts have refused to recognize the political nature of terrorism in Ulster, and only those convicted of crimes committed before March, 1976, need qualify for that special status. The programme also contains a warning that the Provisional IRA intends to carry its campaign into England again. Peter Taylor, the reporter who made the programme, said yesterday that the senior IRA officer who gave the warning in an interview in Dublin "made it clear to me that he spoke with authority".

Merchant marine projects £4

Christopher Thomas
Reporter

Merchant Navy officers' pay last night flatly rejected a £4 pay deal under the two offered by the General Council of British Ship-owners' Association.

The unions, representing 40,000 officers met the employers' representatives in London, and after several hours of discussion, the officers' representatives agreed to approach to the Department of Employment to try to broker annual pay deals.

The officers' representatives were due to settle on 1 and the seamen are due another rise on January 1. The Merchant Navy and Air Officers' Association, big of the four unions, stood a claim for a rise in line with the cost of living to 17 per cent.

The employers said last night they wanted to pay more than £4 but would not exceed these two limits.

The Fire Officers' Union has submitted a claim for a 30 per cent pay rise, which would give some an extra £20 a week. Press Association reports.

Ministers firm against 'green pound' change

By Hugh Clayton
Agricultural Correspondent

Farmers are to be told by the Government not to expect an early change in the "green pound" which would raise producers' returns and the prices of many foods. Although food price increases have moderated this year ministers recognize that a firm clamp on them is essential if large pay claims are to be avoided.

Mr Silkin, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, began preparing yesterday for the next round of changes in EEC food policy. He met Mr Jack Jones, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, and Mr David Cairns, the union's chief official in charge of fisheries, last night.

Today Mr Silkin is to meet leaders of the farmers' unions. They want immediate devaluation of the green pound, by which EEC farm prices are expressed in sterling, with an assurance of further changes later. The Government has decided that there shall be no devaluation until the fixing of all EEC farm support prices in the spring, and no guarantee of it then.

Mr Silkin believes that safeguarding British commercial interests is essential in forthcoming talks about EEC farm and fisheries policy. The European Commission intends to produce a plan for a Community fishing policy soon and Britain has until the end of the year to make the final changes that will enable British farming to meet the demands of the common agricultural policy.

The Potato Marketing Board reported yesterday that shop prices of small potatoes had fallen to 2p a pound in England and Wales, and those of modern varieties to 4p for 2lb. These are the lowest prices for at least four years.

The weather that has helped to produce a bumper potato crop has also led to a shortage of home-grown wheat of milling quality.

Millers have already started buying wheat from France, West Germany and Denmark. REM, which makes Mothers' Pride bread, said: "It looks as if a great deal of the home wheat crop is going to be sold for animal feed and that sort of thing. First we shall have to look to the rest of the EEC, and secondly to North America." Fall in farm production, page 4

Executives of ICI die in crash

Three British executives of ICI were among six people killed when a chartered aircraft crashed and exploded in flames in West Germany, it was disclosed yesterday. One was the deputy chairman of the firm's Mond division, Mr D. S. Patterson, aged 50.

The others were named by the company as Mr Richard Barrett, aged 39, General Production Manager of one of the division's groups, and Mr John Murray, aged 42, manager of the ICI Balm works.

The crash occurred on the West German pilot and Mr Wolfgang Barr, whose address was given as Eye, near Ipswich. The aircraft crashed on Tuesday night shortly after takeoff from Frankfurt bound for Manchester.

An ICI spokesman said that the three executives who were all based with the Mond chemicals division, had been on a visit to Wilhelmshaven, where ICI plan to build a big chemical plant.

Mr Patterson was married with two daughters and lived in Frodsham, Cheshire. Mr Barrett, from Wigan, near Northwich, Cheshire, was married with one son, Mr Murta, of Eaglescliffe, near Stockton-on-Tees, was married with two daughters.

Accept more direction', public schools told

The education provided in Britain is neither worthy of the potential of our children nor equal to the task that the nation requires it to do, he said.

By attacking academic selection and pursuing social justice, the reformers of the 1960s had thought they were modernizing education. But they were doing the wrong enemy: the real enemy was the obsolete attitudes towards the nature and purpose of education.

Those attitudes were inherited from a time when Britain was a great imperial power, when the British could afford to regard education as having little direct connexion with the creation of wealth for the country, when learning was for its own sake, and when the Government could afford to let the schools go their own way with a minimum of direction.

The education system needed to be modernized and freed from some of the more crippling effects of egalitarianism. The conference must form a pressure-group for reform. But it could not fulfil that role if it was introspective and obsessed with its own survival.

"Even if we died in the process, it would not be a disaster," Dr Rae told a press conference earlier. "Our survival is not the question at all: it is the country's survival."

In his address, which Dr Rae emphasized expressed his personal views, he put forward a seven-point plan for reform. 1. He wanted to see an end to specialization in the sixth form. The sixth-form curriculum was too heavily biased towards the needs of the individual, and not enough attention was paid to the needs of society. Specialization closed doors to possible careers too early.

2. He believed that conference schools should be prepared to offer themselves as experimental "centres of excellence" in disciplines such as mathematics or modern languages. [That would inevitably entail some loss of independence in return for some public financing, he suggested at the press conference.]

TUC looks for quick action on tax cuts

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, says the economic and financial constraints that forced restrictive government measures on public spending have eased. The General Council of the TUC will be examining the scope for further public spending increases and tax cuts. "We shall be looking for action from the Government, and quickly," he says.

Talk about the promised land does not put people into jobs. Emphasizing the need for more selective intervention in the labour market, he suggests a "job expansion subsidy" to firms increasing recruitment.

Union representatives of the 4,000 workers of the Belfast Engineering firm of James Mackie and Sons, threatened with government sanctions if a 22 per cent pay deal is not renegotiated, refused to yield to government pressure to stick to guidelines.

Rhodesia blamed a report by the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace in Rhodesia blames the Army rather than the guerrillas for some of the atrocities there. It accused the Smith regime of conducting a ruthless propaganda campaign.

South Africa: Opposition plans to fight Mr Vorster's surprise election on the issue of human rights.

Australia: Allegations that men were kept as "slave labourers" in a saw mill arouses an outcry.

Palace plans: Former grace and favour apartments at Hampton Court Palace are to be opened to the public.

of Britain's secret Chinese societies and their connexion with heroin.

Sport, page 10-12
Gold: Tony Jackson breaks course record in English professional championship; Tennis: The Nastase beaten by Georges Goven in Paris.

Business News, pages 10-23
Financial Editor: Deferred hopes at RT2; comparisons in confederacy; Rockware produces a British alternative for Redfern Stock markets: Glis were strong but equities saw little action in the FT Index closed 2.3 down at 520.0.

Business features: Christopher Thomas on the independent trade unions which have annoyed the TUC.

Business Diary: on with the dance at EMI.

Home News, 2, 4
European News, 6, 7
Overseas News, 6, 7
Appointments, 20

RAC Tourist Trophy Race. Silverstone Sunday Sept 18, 1977.

We'd like to thank our competition for trying so hard.



**Results of the RAC Tourist Trophy Race,
a round of the European Touring Car Championship:**

1st. Alpina BMW CSL driven by Quester and Walkinshaw
(Average winning speed 105.5mph)

2nd. Luigi BMW CSL 3rd. Luigi BMW CSL

4th. Leyland Jaguar XJ 5.3C

Class 'C' Group II up to 2 Litres:

1st. Heyco BMW 320i
2nd. Alpina BMW 2002
3rd. BMW 2002

Access Manufacturers' Team Award:

1st. Alpina BMW

All results subject to official confirmation

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Liberal call to develop works councils

By Michael Hinchfield
Political Reporter
Strong emphasis is placed on the need to develop works councils on the day after yesterday. It will be the conference next week.

The significance of the report is that it would encourage a more competitive style of management. By widening the area of responsibility, the council is urged to move from the traditional practices of the past to a more modern approach in which the council is concerned with the overall performance of the company, rather than just the day-to-day running of the business.

In advocating the development of works councils, the report acknowledges the fact that many companies are already doing so, but it urges a more widespread adoption of the system. It also points out that the council should be a permanent body, rather than a temporary one, and that it should have a say in the company's financial and management decisions.

But the report also says that the council should not be a substitute for the trade union. It should be a complementary body, working alongside the union to improve the company's performance and the welfare of its employees.

It says: "In the future, it must be evident that the council is a permanent body, responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, and that it should have a say in the company's financial and management decisions."

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We would emphasize that the council should not be a substitute for the trade union. It should be a complementary body, working alongside the union to improve the company's performance and the welfare of its employees. It also points out that the council should be a permanent body, rather than a temporary one, and that it should have a say in the company's financial and management decisions.

Works councils are urged to be kept informed of the company's plans and to have a say in the company's financial and management decisions. It also points out that the council should be a permanent body, rather than a temporary one, and that it should have a say in the company's financial and management decisions.

Four coach victims named

Four of the five coaches involved in the crash at Ayr on Sunday were named as victims of the disaster.

The names of the four coaches were: the Leyland Atlantean, the Leyland Tiger, the Leyland Tiger, and the Leyland Tiger.

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HOME NEWS

Fall in farm production 'rules out hope of £600m import saving'

From Our Veterinary Correspondent
Swansea

After an extraordinary increase in productivity and the greatest technological revolution in its history, British agriculture has temporarily run out of steam, Sir Emrys Jones, Principal of the Royal Agricultural College, told the British Veterinary Association yesterday.

Sir Emrys, who was giving the Woodridge memorial lecture, in Swansea, said that in the past three decades cereal production had increased fivefold, and that of meat, and milk had doubled. The harvesting of most crops was almost completely mechanized. Man-hours for wheat production had fallen from 82 in 1950 to 16 in 1976, during which time wheat yields had increased by 60 per cent. All that had been achieved with half the agricultural labour and a continuing loss of land, recently running at 148,000 acres a year.

The White Paper "Food from our own resources", in 1975 expected a growth rate of net produce of 2.5 per cent a year, and all agreed that that seemed feasible at the time. Today it was clear that the objectives were unattainable, Sir Emrys said.

It was true that there had been two disastrous climatic years, but something

more fundamental had caused the first decline in agricultural net output for a quarter of a century. That ruled out import saving of £600m by the early 1980s, at a time when there was no longer a reliable world food surplus, and made Britain increasingly vulnerable to wild fluctuations in world food prices.

Sir Emrys said there was little to suggest that future prices for the British farmer would compensate for increased costs and encourage investment. Discouragement of agricultural production would probably multiply and accelerate. Urban society was concerned about the methods of modern farming, the welfare of farm animals in intensive units, the pollution of water, and changes in the landscape.

The only way forward was to become even more efficient, and new initiatives were needed. Sir Emrys deplored the Government's failure to invest in the preventive medicine programme proposed in the 1975 Swann report on the veterinary profession. The annual loss in British livestock from disease was about £1,000m a year. "Can we as a nation really afford this?", he asked. Politicians and administrators must be persuaded that investment in preventive farm medicine was a national dimension in agricultural policy.

The man who collected companies leaves £50m

By Alan Hamilton

Mr Gordon Berger, whose name was a household word to some of his 500,000 tenants, died in the East End of London on Tuesday night aged 82. He leaves behind assets estimated at £50m and a reputation as the largest private landlord in Britain.

Mr Berger died at the home of his sister, Sarah, in an unremarkable terrace house in Gilda Crescent, Clapton. For many years before his death he had occupied a shabby, peeling, ground-floor flat in Hackney owned by Wise Products, one of the 350 companies in which the Berger family had a stake. It was the headquarters of a remarkable property empire, which stretched from Brighton to Glasgow.

Little is known of Mr Berger, except that he arrived as a penniless immigrant from Romania in the 1920s, and came to own half a million properties. Those who attempted to throw light on his affairs described him as the Howard Hughes of the property world, and the Jewish Chronicle once described him as "the most powerful man in the world".

Mr Berger was a prominent member of the Sotomera, a Jewish sect so strict that it does not even recognize Israel, because it is a secular state. All his spare moments were reported to be spent in prayer, and he gave large charitable donations for the founding of a Talmudic college and the primary schools in London, all of which taught the extreme orthodox views of his religion.

He was born in Poland but spent most of his early life in Romania, where he set up in business as a clothing manufacturer. He came to London, penniless, in the 1920s to escape persecution, and borrowed £3 from a friend.

With that money he bought a sack of dried beans, sold it from door to door, and earned the nickname of "Cezel" the bean man. With the bean profits he set up a rag stall, but his real break came during the war, when he set up an East End factory to manufacture torch batteries, a highly prized commodity at the time.

His battery factory, staffed by refugee labour, was helped by profits from his sale of other desirable war time commodities, including zip fasteners, elastic, saccharin and powder compacts.

He did his first property deal in 1944, when, with the help of an £800 loan from a friend, he bought 16 houses in Merton, south-west London.



Susan Jackson, aged 17, of Altrincham, Greater Manchester, at the Kellogg's National Exhibition of Children's Art at The Mail Galleries, London, yesterday, with the self-portrait that won her £400.

Courting the Scottish voter 3

Frustrating time for the Liberals

By Ronald Faux

The Liberal dilemma in Scotland appears to be that of having many good policies but little appeal as a third party or even a protest vote. Scots clearly feel that a protest with a more authentic Scottish stamp, in the form of an SNP vote, is the most effective way of calling Westminster's attention north of the border.

That attitude really developed between the February and October elections in 1974 and in Inverness, turned Mr Russell Johnston's seat from safe to marginal. The SNP moved from fourth to second place.

It is difficult to argue against nationalism. Scots are patriotic and proud, so, but the nationalist party has tried to project the SNP as the only outlet for this pride, which is what people like me resent most," the Liberal MP who is leader of the party in Scotland, said.

Sometimes this new political logic works cruelly. An Inverness man wrote to Mr Johnston, thanking him for sorting out a difficulty. He added that he was helped by the party that was the party that "got things done".

For Scottish Liberals particularly it was frustrating to be the party that consistently pressed for a Scottish assembly with economic powers and a

large degree of devolution, only to see the SNP reap the benefits with far more extreme policies. It was, after all, Russell Johnston who introduced a Scottish self-government Bill on October 1974, and he said "I do not like speculating, but the rise of the SNP coincided with the rise in inflation and the discovery of oil, and a lot of people who at one time said 'down with the unions' or 'down with the nasty businessmen' said 'down with the English' instead. The appeal of Liberalism, of saying you must be fair and find a sensible solution, attracts the respect of many but the positive support of fewer."

The SNP had been a stark, single-issue party while the Liberal vote probably emerged as ambivalent and that had not been helped by the party's Government. The fact was that Britain had achieved a period of stable government without the threat of extreme policies, but how much credit would eventually be given to the Liberals for that?

It was probably the sharp decline in the Liberal majority that so concentrated SNP attention on Inverness-shire. There must be easier pickings in Scotland than the largest constituency in Britain sprawling from coast to coast in 4,000 square miles of mountain and glen with an MP well known, liked and established for 12 years.

"I often feel a cross between ombudsman and social worker sorting out problems on all kinds of subjects which are not strictly my responsibility." That is before writing articles for newspapers, innumerable letters, speeches on devolution or on European affairs and filling the Liberal slot on television.

Mr Johnston was the first United Kingdom Liberal MP in the European Parliament, serving on the political and regional transport committees. Such extra responsibilities cannot help one man tending a constituency under pressure, but his agent firmly puts the rise of the SNP in Inverness down to support from the young.

Liberals were the party of the over-thirties, and young people were seeking some new force full of vitality and change. How could anyone satisfy that by being straight, fair and oppressively sensible?

Next: Conservatives

Call to set up 'community risks' advisory service

By Our Science Editor

A proposal for an experiment with a new type of organization called a "community risks advisory service" has been made by the Council for Science and Society. The idea is to provide advice for particular occupational groups and localities on hazards associated with technical developments. It is one outcome of a study, *The Acceptability of Risks*, published as a special report today.

The findings are bound to provoke controversy in that the report argues that scientific and technological advance has overcome many commonplace risks in the community, but has created more serious ones, which are sometimes hard to define and to eliminate.

The risks of explosion and the release of tetrahydrobenzo-p-dioxin at Seveso were among the accidents examined by a working party including Brigadier R. L. Allen, former Chief Inspector of Civil Service Ammunition; Professor Eric

Burhop, of University College London; Dr M. Flood, Friends of the Earth; Mr Jonathan Gower, fellow of New College, Oxford; Mr Anthony Woolf, chairman of the Lawyers' Ecology Group; and Dr Jerome Ravetz, secretary to the council.

From the study the group concluded that there are obvious shortcomings when genuine discussion of risk encounters questions involving costs, benefits, probabilities and notions of acceptability, and above all questions of choice.

"Hazards of all sorts have been shamefully neglected in scientific and technological research". The official agencies established for regulation and control purposes have not, in the opinion, adequate resources and standards for making fair and impartial judgments.

The suggestion for a community risks advisory service is made because new legislation on health and safety is intended to cover a wider field than the workplace.

Religious clash on Windscale

From a Special Correspondent
Whitehaven

Religious views clashed at the Windscale inquiry yesterday. While the British Council of Churches was voicing objections to the proposed 50 members of the Windscale Christian Fellowship made clear that council's views did not coincide with their own.

The fellowship produced a petition explaining its attitude on the nuclear issue, but Lord Silcock, QC, for British Nuclear Fuels, decided not to produce it as evidence. The petition read:

"We, the undersigned, Christians working at Windscale, have seriously considered the ethical objections that have been raised against nuclear power, and we are satisfied that, provided that current standards are maintained with regard to safety, surveillance of operations and provisions for future centuries, the reprocessing of oxide fuel provides no greater prospect of harm to present, or future generations, here or abroad, than does any alternative energy strategy."

That was in direct opposition to the evidence of the council given by Dr David Gosling, lecturer in theology at Hull University, who said the council considered it unwise to develop oxide reprocessing facilities on a commercial scale before a satisfactory scheme had been achieved for safe disposal of waste.

The Rev Alan Postlethwaite, Vicar of Whitehaven, supporting the evidence of the council, said little had been done to mitigate latent unease.

Arrest warrant for woman in Keating case

A warrant for the arrest of Mrs Jane Maurice, aged 31, a former associate of Mr Tom Keating, the artist, has been obtained by Scotland Yard's art and antiques squad. It was learnt in London yesterday. It alleges that she obtained a cheque for £99 by deception.

Mrs Maurice, formerly Jane Kelly, now lives with her husband in Toronto.

Mr Keating, of Lower Park, Dedham, Essex, who is on bail, faces nine charges of conspiracy and deception.

BBC to restore radio cuts

The BBC is to restore some of the cuts made in its Radio One and Two services. The stations amalgamated for a 24-hour afternoon show at the beginning of 1975.

The move is the second phase of restoring radio hours lost in the BBC's economy drive over the past three years. The corporation said the cuts could be restored sometime in the autumn.

Health risk from reactor accident assessed

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

A report calculating the incidence of various cancers and hereditary disorders that would be caused by the accidental release of a radioactive cloud from a fast-breeder nuclear reactor is published today.

The research, by the National Radiological Protection Board, at the request of the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate of the Health and Safety Executive, is one of a series of preparatory studies. They will be needed by the inspectorate to assess the suitability of a fast-breeder reactor for the operation of a power station.

Proposals for the first power station using a fast-breeder reactor, CFRI, were made more than two years ago by the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority. In view of the safety and security issues to cover a nuclear system, Mr Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment, has promised that

a planning application to build CFRI will be subject to a public inquiry.

Some of the inevitable questions on health that will be examined by such an inquiry are indicated in today's report. One of its purposes is to assess the consequences of the most extreme accident that could occur. On that information, the nuclear inspectorate can define how much protection the reactor requires for it to be regarded as safe for licensing.

The worst conditions examined by the protection board involves the melting of the nuclear fuel in the core of the reactor and the release by rupture of the surrounding vessels, of an intensely radioactive aerosol cloud.

Such an incident is described as improbable in a foreword to the report by the inspectorate. It argues that it is much more likely that such a breach would be detected by multiple safety systems and that the

reactor would be safely shut down without damage.

Most of the calculations are for the release of one tonne of material of fast-reactor fuel. The core of the proposed 1,300 megawatt station contains at the start 20 tonnes of a mixture of plutonium and uranium metal, but during its operation much of that is changed to provide a mixture of 600 radionuclides.

Those products present different degrees of hazard, depending on the proportion of each one, their radioactive life-times, the type of radiation emitted as they decay, and the form in which they are released. The characteristics of an aerosol cloud affecting dispersal and absorption by the body can differ greatly. One composed of microscopic particles can be more dangerous than another containing larger droplets.

Thus, in judging the hazard, the fission products and actinides contained in irradiated fuel have been listed accord-

ing to their volatility. Many of the 600 are regarded as negligible in determining the levels of exposure after a release.

A group of 32 has been compiled with the proportion of radiation dose that each would give if absorbed into the body to the lungs, bone marrow, testes, ovaries, liver and thyroid over periods ranging from hours to 50 years.

For a severe release, all the population within two kilometres would be expected to die from early effects of radiation. The proportions suffering from short-term, as opposed to longer-term, lethal effects are calculated for distances up to 10km from the site of the accident.

An Estimate of the Radiological Consequences of a Nuclear Accident, *Releases of Radioactivity from a Fast-Breeder Reactor, NRPB-R53* (National Radiological Protection Board, Harwell, Didcot, Stationery Office, £3.50).

Schools to discuss plan for replacing A levels

By Our Education Correspondent

Detailed discussions across the country are to begin on proposals by the Schools Council to replace GCE A levels with broader based examinations at the age of 18 and over.

The first reports from a total of 26 schools (proposals for N (normal) and F (further) examinations and curricula in different subjects are being sent at the end of this month to all secondary schools, sixth form colleges, colleges of further and higher education, subject teacher associations, major industrial and commercial organizations, the GCE and CSE examining boards and others.

The reports contain specimen N and F syllabuses, assessment schemes and question papers, and are the essential groundwork on which the N and F proposals must be

judged. The Schools Council Committee, a second batch of reports will be sent out in October.

Formal responses to the proposals are not wanted, however, until after an overall evaluation of the N and F programme is published, at about Easter next year. A notice report on how the proposals will affect resources at schools and colleges is expected earlier in the year.

The Schools Council does not plan to decide before mid-1979 whether to make a submission to the Secretary of State for Education and Science recommending the replacement of the GCE A levels by N and F level examinations.

Invalid tricycle inquiry

Sir Idwal Pugh, the Parliamentary Commissioner (Ombudsman), is to investigate the decision to phase out invalid tricycles after a complaint about "contradictory" reasons given by the Government.

The complaint was made by a disabled constituent of Mr Jeff Rooker, Labour MP for Perry Bar, who passed it on to the commissioner a dossier of letters from the Prime Minister, Mr Morris, Under Secretary of State (Disabled) and Mr Horam, Under Secretary of State for Transport, as well as various other government statements.

Earlier this year Sir Idwal wrote to Mr Rooker, saying

that he would have to make further inquiries at the Department of Health. In the light of the replies he received he has decided on an investigation.

Mr Rooker said yesterday that he was not opposed in principle to phasing out the tricycle provided disabled drivers could obtain a satisfactory alternative.

"In the absence of such a guarantee the status quo should be maintained, and this means issuing the tricycle to newly disabled who can or who wish to drive," he said.

Since that policy was stopped in August last year about 1,200 people have been paid £5 a week mobility allowance.

Teacher hit with rifle gets £25,000

An Ulster teacher, who was hit on the head with a rifle butt, was awarded £25,000 damages against the Ministry of Defence yesterday.

A court in Belfast was told that Mr Patrick Devine, aged 36, of Rosemount Primary School, Londonderry, suffers from headaches and blackouts as a result of the blow. He has poor concentration and finds it difficult to sleep.

According to the statement of claim, Mr Devine was struck when he tried to help his headmaster who was being abused by troops in November, 1974.

Council tenants' high spending on maintenance

Council tenants spend as much on the repair and maintenance of their housing as local authorities do, in fact more, a report published today by the National Consumer Council says.

The average expenditure on a dwelling by local authorities in the year 1975/6 was £57.2, while tenants spent an average £86 on repair, maintenance and improvements.

Much of the work done by the tenants was the council's responsibility, Miss Hilary Robinson, author of the report and research officer in the NCC's social policy unit, says.

The report suggests that tenants should be charged more for the cost of repairs by the council or that they should be allowed to do more of the work themselves.

Two charged in Mormon case

Two people are to appear at Epsom Magistrates' Court today on charges in connexion with the alleged kidnapping of Mr Kirk Anderson, a Mormon missionary, at East Ewell, Surrey, last Wednesday.

Joyce McInney, aged 27, and Keith Joseph, aged 25, are charged with kidnapping and unlawfully imprisoning, and with possessing an imitation firearm with intent to commit an offence.

Mary Bell loses privileges

Mary Bell, aged 20 who absconded from Moor Court open prison, Staffordshire, ten days ago, has been ordered by the board of prison visitors to forfeit privileges for 28 days.

WHERE TO SEE THE SUBLINE CX.

Avon
Bath, Independent Motors 24730/2858
Bristol, Bristol Motors 44333/44170
Bristol, Eurocar 28488/281/21188/7
Weston-Super-Mare, Reales Garages 23595

Bedfordshire
Bedford, Smith & Carpenter 3544/23
Leighton Buzzard, Camden Motors 2041

Berkshire
Cookham, The Forge Motor Co.
Barnet, H. J. & J. 4191/1 & 4195/6
Reading, C. J. & J. 5789
Slough, D. J. & J. 2724
Sunningdale, Sunningdale Garage 784/4
Wokingham, Concordia Garage 784/4

Buckinghamshire
Chesham, R. & J. 4191/1 & 4195/6
Gerrards Cross 655/1
High Wycombe, Russell's Motor Service, 4191/1 & 4195/6
Slough, Stratford & Son Garage, 4191/1 & 4195/6
Wilton Keynes 365/15

Cambridgeshire
Cambridge, H. R. Cambridge 591/1
Dunstable, J. & J. 4191/1 & 4195/6
Cambridge 624/1
Huntingdon, Brimley Garage 351/1
Peterborough, Peterborough 57/21 659/6

Cheshire
Baldern, Baldern Engineering Service Company, 01-608 2247
Chester, Chester Motor Company 672/17 & 672/18
Crewe, Crewe & Co. 445
Warrington, Warrington Motor Company, 0944
Widnes, C&T Garage 01-424 4518

Cleveland
Stockton-on-Tees, Parklands 7800/5

Cornwall
St Austell, P. C. Dinkins, St Austell 241/6
St Austell, H. & J. 442/2

Cumbria
Barrow, L. & J. 2158
Preston, H. & J. 445/1 & 445/2
Widnes, W. & J. 445/1 & 445/2

Derbyshire
Chesterfield, Chesterfield 451/1
Macclesfield, Macclesfield 451/1
Macclesfield, Macclesfield 451/1

Devon
Barnstaple, West Cross Garage 912/25 & 912/26
Barnstaple, West Cross Garage 912/25 & 912/26
Barnstaple, West Cross Garage 912/25 & 912/26

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WEST EUROPE

French Union of Left determined to agree on common policy despite fundamental differences

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Sept 21

Leaders of the troubled Union of the Left met today to agree on a common programme amid scenes of indescribable confusion.

A week after M. Robert Fabre, leader of the Left Radicals, plunged the three-party alliance into the worst crisis of its five-year existence, he met M. Marchais, the Communist leader, and M. Mitterrand, the Socialist leader, to bring up to date their common programme of 1972.

All three, leading 10-men delegations, had to force their way through a jostling mass of photographers and reporters, at Communist Party headquarters, falling over one another in the crush.

When they adjourned this evening, it was not clear how long the discussions would continue beneath the portraits of Marx, Lenin and Thorez. But what is certain is that they will succeed in producing some sort of agreement on the updated programme—except for three points in dispute are left blank.

M. Fabre will not walk out

again, and the three opposition parties know they cannot afford a second breakdown which this time would be fatal to the Union of the Left.

But all concerned agree that the going will be tough. The week of contacts and negotiations behind the scenes, which have preceded today's meeting, have brought conflicting standpoints a little closer, especially the extent of nationalization. They have not resolved the fundamental conflict, glossed over in the 1972 common programme.

On the one hand the Socialists and Left Radicals defend the society of free enterprise, while the ultimate aim of the Communists is a collectivist system. Beyond the controversies over the national minimum wage, differentials, nationalization and defence, that is the nub of the matter. The Left Radicals' walk-out last week made this quite clear.

The Communists have made some concessions. They probably realized that they were staking too much in recent weeks, and that this damaged their image in public opinion, as the latest poll shows.

They have dropped the proposal to nationalize oil companies and Peugeot-Citroën, and reduced the number of subsidiaries of the nine commercial and industrial groups enumerated in the original programme of 1972 from over 1,400 to 729. But they are intractable on the nationalization of steel.

The socialists continue to insist that only a time concerns and their wholly owned subsidiaries be nationalized, as well as a few "strategic" firms, making a total of 150 or so.

On the provision in the 1972 programme for nationalization of other firms if a majority of their shareholders demanded it—which the Left Radicals regard as the open door to collectivism—the Communists have agreed to the Socialist compromise formula of a reference to the constitution.

But if the gap on specific points has been narrowed down, it is also still very wide on defence, the original subject of controversy between Socialists and Communists last summer. The atmosphere of mutual suspicion between Socialists and Communists has if anything been worsened by recent events.

Fresh round in French fight against bureaucracy

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Sept 21

The French Government has once again gone to war against excessive paperwork. It adopted 101 measures designed to simplify administrative procedures in 10 different fields.

"We are going to suppress all this paperwork," M. Barre, the Prime Minister, said as he left today's Cabinet meeting. "The question is not to save paper, but to save people and firms floundering under the weight of procedures and paper."

The Prime Minister mentioned the fact, well known to any foreigner living in this country, that in order to obtain an administrative decision, one had to approach up to three different offices. "Henceforth, only one will be competent," he stated.

He said that he had been struck by the fact that no less than 70 different certificates or declarations were required during a man's active life to obtain social security benefits, pensions and other like.

It is not the first time that the Government has declared war on paperwork, and public opinion is inevitably sceptical about the practical results of its latest measures except to say that the administration in this country is a law unto itself.

As M. Roger Peyrefitte, the Minister of Justice, has demonstrated in his book, *Le mal français*, the bureaucracy can obstruct the decisions of Parliament, ministers, and even the President. Some of the administrative rules still in force go back to 1855.

To obtain a gun licence—and there are over two million held in this country—it is necessary to get a stamp from the Credit Agricole, go to the *mairie* to obtain a form, and to the tax collector to pay the fee for the licence.

Sometimes these different steps take up a whole day. In future, they will be simplified and carried out at the local town hall.

The 10 main administrative branches in which the new simplified procedures are to be introduced are social security and health, justice, the Post Office, education, building permits, reservists' rights, national service, radio and television licences, income tax, relations between the ministries and firms and relations between the ministries and their own officials, which is no more simple than relations between the ministries and the public.

If the Government's intentions are really carried out, it will take only a fortnight, for instance to obtain a *Baccalauréat* (GCE) certificate. At present, because this takes so long, a provisional attestation is issued, pending dispatch of the formal document.

To obtain social aid to indigent persons no less than 12 forms have to be filled in at present, in future only one will be necessary.

Newspapers' protest after bomb attack

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Sept 21

Newspapers in Barcelona closed down for the day in protest at the bomb explosion in the offices of the satirical magazine *El Pápagu* yesterday which killed two people. The Apostolic Anticommunist Alliance has claimed responsibility for the blast.

The attack was condemned today by newspapers, politicians and trade unions. The alliance, which has claimed responsibility for explosions in the past, admitted the attack in a telephone call to the newspaper *Mundo Diario*.

Other groups have also claimed responsibility, but given the nature of the magazine attacked, which frequently lampoons the right, it is most likely that the alliance was responsible. The magazine had received numerous right wing threats.

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Mr Callaghan in Rome to meet Italian ministers

From Our Own Correspondent
Rome, Sept 21

Mr Callaghan arrived here tonight on the first visit in five years by a British Prime Minister for bilateral talks with Italy. Tomorrow he meets Signor Andreotti, the Italian Prime Minister, and other Cabinet members.

On Friday Mr Callaghan is seeing the Pope and will then spend a quiet weekend resting in Italy.

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OVERSEAS

How CIA tried to spray LSD into party

From David Cross
Washington, Sept 21

Rather than emulating James Bond in its activities, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) this week produced enough material to fill a script for "Monty Python's Flying Circus".

During their testimony before a Senate subcommittee, participants in the agency's controversial drug research programme have described experiments which backfired and tests involving such bizarre apparatus as cocktail swizzle sticks and stink bombs.

Even Senator Edward Kennedy, the normally staid chairman of the subcommittee on health, was unable to hide his mirth when Mr David Rhodes, a former CIA agent, told him an experiment to test an LSD aerosol failed because the weather was too hot.

Three CIA agents had flown to San Francisco to round up unsuspecting merry-makers from bars to test the efficacy of the spray in a house hired by the agency specifically for drug experiments. All went well until the agents realized the party room was not air-conditioned and all the windows would have to be left open because the weather was too hot.

The only suitable room in the house was the bathroom and, unable to find a sufficiently good excuse to explain to guests why a party should be held there, one of the agents was reduced to testing the LSD on himself.

"I didn't get enough, so he felt it wouldn't be very useful," commented Mr Rhodes. At that point they wisely decided to abandon the test.

Another former CIA employee described an experiment involving a launching device for special stink bombs which could be used for breaking up demonstrations. The launcher was considered necessary because of accidents with the normal stink bomb thrown out of hotel windows. On one occasion, the agent explained, a badly aimed bomb had hit the window and bounced back into the room to his discomfort.

One of his colleagues had tested special sticks covered with a special product designed to melt in liquids; a hypodermic syringe designed to inject drugs into a body through the skin; and a thin strip of glass which, when stepped on, would produce a pungent smell.

The jovial tone of the hearings may well change, however, when other witnesses appear before the subcommittee. Among them are Admiral Stansfield Turner, the new CIA director, and Dr Sidney Gottlieb, a former CIA biochemist who is reported to have been in charge of the drug research programme.

Members of the subcommittee have made on secret of their intense dislike for what amounted to a series of tests designed to discover whether the human mind could be controlled by drugs. Although the project was abandoned some years ago, apparently without any worthwhile findings, Congress is anxious to ensure that such a programme never be attempted again.

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Under fire in Lebanon war zone

Continued from page 1

Whatever the Israelis are admitting, there was no ceasefire in Ibi el Saqi today, and the next few hours proved that the battles in southern Lebanon are now very serious indeed. In the space of just one hour, almost 100 shells exploded across the village and in Khiam.

Some of them were obviously being fired by Christian Lebanese gunners in Marjayoun, but the regular booming of artillery from the direction of the Israeli frontier suggested the Israeli Army at Marjayoun was taking a very active part in the battle.

The Israelis later said they had fired into Lebanon. Some of the shells also appeared to be coming from those tanks on the edge.

Abba Mayad sheltered with seven of his colleagues in an old garage in Ibi el Saqi's only street as the shells came over our heads with a great rushing noise. Several crashed into the wall of Greek Orthodox Church, 300 yards down the road, while another deafening blast demolished a bungalow in front of us.

Egyptian minister meets Mr Carter

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, Sept 21

Mr Immanuel Fahmi, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, is in Washington to see President Carter and Mr Cyrus Vance, the Secretary of State, and the heels of Mr Moshe Dayan, his Israeli counterpart.

The Jordanian and Syrian foreign ministers will come here next week, and further consultations will take place in New York at the United Nations General Assembly, the event which has brought all these statesmen to America.

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A phosphorous shell explodes in Ibi el Saqi, the Lebanon village from which Robert Fisk wrote this dispatch.

Under fire in Lebanon war zone

Continued from page 1

Every 50 seconds, a group of Palestinians, some of them only boys aged 13 or 14, would return the fire with a 75mm recoilless rifle from their hide-out in the hills. The Palestinians drank hot sweet tea from glass cups as the barrage continued, undeterred even by the shells which appeared to carry phosphorous. These exploded with long columns of white smoke that clung to the sky.

When one of the commandos ran his finger along the interior surface of shrapnel from one of the missiles, the brown liquid inside leaked out. Immediately against his finger.

Southern Lebanon now seems to be taking on the serious political implications which Mr Yasser Arafat, the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), attributed to the battle last weekend. The Israelis have clearly helped to strengthen and stabilise the Christian Lebanese buffer zone in the south—thus Mr Begin's suggestion of ceasefire discussions—and have at the same time dealt an uncomfortable blow at the PLO's prestige.

Yet the Lebanese Christian gains are not as impressive as they have been making out. Yesterday they were claiming they had taken the villages of Karkoub and Ibi el Saqi, and several other villages. But when I drove into both villages today, I found the Palestinians were still in control. Only the village

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Russia send MiGs to help Ethiopia

Nairobi, Sept 24. —

Soviet transport aircraft began flying in MiG jet fighters to reinforce Ethiopia in desert war with Somalia. Diplomatic sources reported today from Addis Ababa. The said the Anonnyes had been the first crate MiG fighters at Addis Ababa airport.

They also said they had received reports today of renewed ground fighting after a full-scale battle at the main battlefront at the Marda pass, the gateway to Ethiopia's mountains.

Ethiopia's military rulers turned to the Soviet Union for help after they repelled a United States military assistance group in April. The group was sent to help the Ethiopian government in its fight against the Somali rebels.

by Prudence Glynn

Dancing
Krishna followers.
In India
footwear is unnecessary,
in Kilburn
they sport a variety.

In any case, how much does local style influence women, or men? Now that the great statements of fashion are finished and what you wear is a free-for-you, just how far does the two-way effect go? We asked Edward Bell to look at several well-established groups in Britain and to illustrate the melange of style which has resulted.

Tennis

'Workshop' will be hub of winter training

Tennis Correspondent

The training headquarters for Britain's leading tennis players and the best of the aspiring youngsters has been shifted from Queen's Club, West Kensington, to a new £10-million complex at Bisham Abbey on the banks of the Thames just outside Marlow. The completion of a new "sports workshop" complex, which took three years to build and cost £10 million, has been the brainchild of Hutchinson, the national tennis manager, most of the facilities here needs for intensive training and practice in an exclusive environment. The single reservation is that on any day, the club will send no way use the outdoor courts at Queen's Club and their indoor courts at Wimbledon and may occasionally give training a few of the club's players. Andrew Gimeno's club in Barcelona.

Mark Cox and nine other ranked players were among those hardy enough to make the first test of Abbey's four indoor courts. There were taped on to a multi-purpose room, which had been converted into a gymnasium, and the courts flopped up the walls, even the doorways, so that men and women could play a variety of sports without any prohibitions, confident that any impact with the courts would be absorbed and adequately cushioned. There are also five floodlit hard courts outside. Only a loose-top surface is available.

Cox said that if Britain was to compete with the rest of the world in winter sports, the United States, then the whole set-up has to be upgraded.

William Abbey, who is the hub of his winter training programme, he said it was difficult to train in winter sports in the United Kingdom because of the cold and the wooden indoor courts were the wrong speed, there were too many distractions, and the

wendens. It is not the only one. The modern players at Bisham Abbey, where the day's programme has included pre-breakfast jogging and exercises by the river, followed by a series of training and practice drills, and, finally, the day's last relaxing, drinking and playing ball.

Hutchins said that he and his team of helpers would demonstrate more than before the importance of the physical development in the assistance of the former International rugby player, Bev Rissman, senior lecturer in physical education at Balmorhea College. Reading, Rissman's specialty is "exercise physiology," and his function was to organize general and individual training programmes.

Rissman will thus be exploring two areas in which British tennis players, such as John Newcombe, tends to compare unfavorably with many other nations. He recognizes that physical training (as disclosed in meet the differing stresses of differing sports). The other recognizes that individuals' constitutions vary and that physical training schedules must therefore be adapted to individual needs.

The Central Council of Physical Recreation rented Bisham Abbey in 1947 and bought it in 1963. The main purposes of the centre are to raise the standards of physical and qualifying coaches and in improving the performances of selected groups of sports men and women. The centre is a large and complex, which can be adapted to a variety of sports marks a huge stride towards the fulfillment of these purposes. It is a good example of a cosy and congenial in its structure and appointments than it might have been had the designer been given more than functional efficiency.

Nastase is bewildered by double-strung racket

Paris, "Sept. 22.—The double-strung "wonder racket" used by French players Georges Goren and Christophe Roger-Vasselin, causing havoc at the Poree Cup tournament here. Roger-Vasselin beat the expert Zugoslavina with a racket named "Bardas" and today Goren used it to bewilder Romania's Iile Nastase to a shock 6-4, 2-6, 6-4 defeat.

Nastase had been one of the favourites to win the Poree Cup, which counts towards the international tennis grand prix. After the match he said: "I am in the luckiest time in my career. I've come up against a player with a racket like Goren's—and it will be the

best. In future I will refuse to play anybody using a gadget like that."

Gorez, who has lately been in below his best form, adapted to the game quickly to the qualities of the racket, which seemed to give him an extra ball and extra speed. He constantly surprised Nastase, who was visibly tired at the end of a match which kept him running at full stretch from one side of the court to the other. Australia's Dick Cress also used one of these rackets to beat Patrick Dominguez of France last week, and the Frenchman later said he was going to ask the French Tennis Federation to ban them.—Agence France-Press.

Selectors cannot coach under new ARA rule

By Jim Ralston

A potentially embarrassing situation has now been removed by a new rule approved by the Amateur Rowing Association (ARA) Council in its quarterly meeting this week. The rule simply spells out that during "any other period of office members of the selection board should not be involved in the selection of crews within the areas of responsibility of the board."

To my knowledge, four selectors have been actively involved in the selection of British teams in the past two seasons. Christopher Blackwell coached the coxed pair, and the model rowing coach, Sir Billywag regatta. Blackwell, however, resigned as a selector when the selectors nominated him as the national squad coordinator and coach.

During the present season, the selector, Ron Needs, coached the lightweight British eight, who won the world title in the world championships in Amsterdam last month; selector Graeme Hall was connected with an unsuccessful coxed pair in the world championships; Michael Spracklen coached Beilieu and Hart to their gold medal win in double sculls in the world championships.

On the face of it, the selectors have quite an impressive record as coaches in producing two gold medals in this year's world championships. It is a pity that the principle selectors should not mediate seeking international selection. Clearly there will be occasions when the interests clash and objective

seemingly become difficult or somewhat clouded. In short, the A.R.A. council has foreseen danger in the future and has empowered the selectors to pursue their elected role—simply select.

The A.R.A. council will be making the British selection more efficient rather than clipping their wings by setting up a permanent committee to select the committees. The new committee will have the task of coordinating and administering all A.R.A. selected teams. The council will be responsible for the allocation of resources, particularly the necessary relief and the heavy burden which they have to carry in the past.

For this new sub-committee is William J. Clarke as the A.R.A. council could not have found a more suitable man if it had looked for one. He is an efficient organizer and the logistics man behind British inter-national teams for some years.

It is a pity that he has not been problem ahead of him with next year's world championship taking place in New Zealand. It is a pity that the A.R.A. British oarsmen having to spend at least five weeks there.

For the first time—again from the A.R.A. council—there have contributed to newspaper-council procedures in future will be open to accredited rowing as well as to the general public. It will provide an opportunity for its members made by the A.R.A. council.

Four from Rome to take road to Buenos Aires

Rome, Sept. 21.—Twelve countries from four continents will be trying for four places in next year's World Cup hockey tournament.

Inter-Continental Cup starts here tomorrow. The event is the first of two provided for second-ranked nations, who will meet in two pools of six. The top two in each group will, in addition to the winners of the World Cup in Buenos Aires (March 19 to April 1), go through to the semi-finals round of the event here.

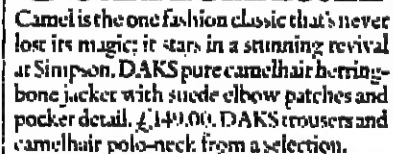
Group A, to be played in France, comprises Kenya, Poland and the Soviet Union. Group B is made up of Belgium, Ireland, Italy, Japan, and Nigeria.

Group A, to be played in the stronger one with Poland, Kenya, and the Soviet Union all trying to reach the last four. The top two will be the best suggestion for surprise. They disappeared under international competition after a moderate first appearance in the 1970 European Cup, but have since made a name for themselves. Good results in national and club competitions. They recently had a 4-0 victory over Belgium, the Continental Cup.

Group B, in Europe, is European qualifying match.

Poland have a strong, experienced side who recently led the Central Europe, losing 4-2. Their hardest match may be their first one against Kenya, who have a strong side. They are the best of Belgium and Ireland ought to be a team from group B, though they are now employing European players. They may also be helpful to Italy.

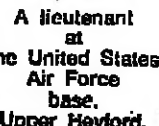
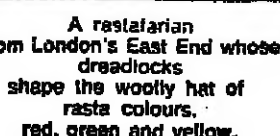
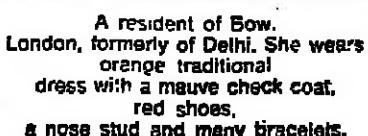
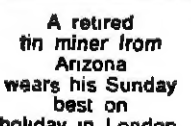
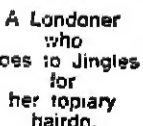
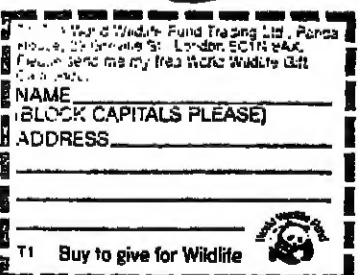
The last race could go to Hobday

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Football



By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

the Scots, for all of their pressure found themselves with chances.

Until then the Czechs had the upper hand, but now the Scots, Scots, but McGrain, particularly met them with typically accurate passes. The Czechs were the defender, here, playing on the left side, started many of Scotland's best attacks, moving rapidly down the left flank. McGrain, neither he, nor any of the Scots' defenders, were caught up by the Czechs.

In these first 15 minutes Masson, at one end and Dobias, at the other, took the crowd through the middle of the game. McGrain was well ahead on the ground but Michalek and a similar fierce but more accurate defender were close to the Scottish bar. If anything the Czechs, at this stage, were the more accurate in several of their attacks. The Scots were the more powerful, contently supporting each other and showing the character of the match.

The Czech defence, always susceptible to a ball floated high into the air, was not so good after 20 minutes when Johnson's corner left them watching as Jordan missed well into the space between the two goalkeepers. The thumping header settled satisfyingly in the back of the net.

After 25 minutes the Czechs were an impressive unit. They met the Czech breakaways more positively, now, nipping them in midfield. So, in the next 10 minutes, their achievements when, after 35 minutes, they took a second goal, though for a moment, there was a possibility of a Czech comeback. Let them have their prize. Johnston's centre again caused confusion and delayed action in the defence.

But was not helped by one of his own colleagues who obstructed the Czechs' attack. The Czechs, knees and, as bodies collided, the

[illegible]

N Ireland 2 **Iceland 0**
Northern Ireland finally de-

teamed Iceland before a 15,000 crowd in an uninspired, ultra-defensive World Cup qualifying tie at Windsor Park. Belfast—the island's major sports arena—was a lower-crime, less-lawless, defensive tactics. Goals came in the second half from the Manchester United players McGarth (62 minutes) and McFerry (79 minutes). And then they had been up against a stonewall defence and frustration began to creep in.

Mr Blanchflower said: "This was not the way I would have played in the circumstances". They only came to save their face, not to entertain but I suppose that's the name of the game to say. We were not aware of any of this. I was late on the pitch and I was late on the pitch.

George Best, making a modest reappearance after seven years' absence from Belfast, agreed. "I don't know if I can do anything at stake, Iceland should have come forward. You just can't provide entertainment with a lack of focus. It was a disgrace," he said. Iceland's manager Tony Knapp disagreed. "How can you come to Belfast and not see the quality of the players? We're particularly weak under strength. It would be suicidal."

Northern Ireland's first goal came in the seventh minute corner. When McIlroy floated the ball into the centre, Best kicked it to Ireland's goalkeeper. McIlroy's first shot from the

[illegible]

One unruly football spectator has cost Manchester City £10,000.

That is the sum the club are paying out to fence in their supporters. The spectator invaded the Maine Road pitch during last week's Uefa Cup match with Widrow Lodge.

City have acted promptly and may have avoided disciplinary action by Uefa. The Manchester City chairman, Peter Swales, said: "We don't really want to fence to the fans but we must deter them from running on the pitch. Life-mode clubs in this country we are not happy about fences but this is a sign of the times. In fact we prefer to call them safety barriers."

Dibs McNeil, one of football's leading goalkeepers, joined Wrexham on Tuesday. It was a record fee for both clubs and McNeil makes his first appearance at Swindon on Sunday. Wrexham's manager, Gordon Griffiths, the former Welsh midfield player, then attempted to do a double deal by signing the Swindon striker David Davies, who was refused entry into Kuwait on Tuesday because he had an Israeli stamp on his passport.

Davies, also wanted by Chester at a give-away fee of £10,000, spoke to Mr Griffiths before accompanying him to Swindon. Everton manager Gordon Lee gave me permission to talk to the player but nothing

[illegible]

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: First division:
Oxford City, 3, Wokingham Town 2.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier div.

[illegible][illegible]

Denis Howell, the Minister for Sport, has written defending the match.

Manchester United, who were playing the European Cup final at Wembley, in a letter to Hans Blix, the UN secretary-general. Blix, in turn, has said that Mr. Howell claims that Manchester United's arrangements for the support of the match were "beyond reproach". None of the supporters defined because of the match was in contact with the official supporters' committee, he says.

"I have made broad extensive enquiries since the match and I am greatly satisfied with the arrangements made by Manchester United for the sale of tickets and the support of the match. The official supporters were beyond reproach.

Officials of the British Foreign Office, who were in London detained by the police in Lyons and I understand that none of them was in contact with the official party.

Each had made of private travel arrangements and intended to reach match tickets at the stadium itself.

It is noteworthy that the five people who were arrested in Lyons were not in contact with the official party.

"It is clear to me that there was no attempt at segregating supporters of the two teams at the match. I am alarmed to hear that there were 41,000 spectators at the match, but that the capacity of only 38,000 and the dangers of such a situation are obvious."

"Of course, none of this would cause the conduct of the match to be unduly affected, but the official supporters appear to have been particularly upset on this occasion."

"It does seem to me that UEFA has failed to take adequate regulation in this instance and have not accepted any responsibility for the situation. It is yet conducted an adequate inquiry into the situation prevailing on the broad grounds."

In spite of Mr. Howell's reference to the attendance as being an official figure released was 33,678.

Manchester United's assistant secretary, Kenneth Merritt, said that George Law, the club's secretary, had been in Lyons.



By Richard Streeton

A great deal of water in all respects has flowed under the bridges over the St Lawrence river in the 14 months since the costly Games here. The impression cleaned by a visiting Englishman that much of the resentment against the city was due to the fact that Runyon would have termed the local citizenry seems to have evaporated. In terms of conversion of the subject is almost a backwater.

Certainly, the casual inquirer, trying to gauge public feeling on the subject while pouring the simple logic of the subject, would find many who now regret that this city staged the Games.

Not even among taxi drivers, that class of the population usually recovered by travelling journalists,

Canada will apply to hold the 1986 or 1990 World Cup in Quebec City. Montreal's stadium the main venue.

If this should come as a surprise to some people, let it be noted that the level of interest in the schools level here and around the city for the game are being whetted by the fairly respectable chance Canada have of reaching the final of the World Cup in Argentina next summer as winners of a notoriously weak North American group. A soccer international with a crowd of 100,000 spectators in a month is eagerly awaited. One sports official told me that Canada would even be willing to deputize for Argentina if any eleven hour trouble arose.

The swimming pool where David Wilkie, along with a mass of East Germans and Americans, brought

Obviously political capital continues to be available from the Canadian nickels and dimes on the country's coasts and inland. The provincial committees rumble on; and crucial decisions have yet to be made. The stadium will be built in Miramichi and the still empty Olympic village. Despite the financial hangovers incurred, though, a regular usage of the actual sports facilities provided for the Games. The main athletics stadium at the J. R. Johnson and Albert W. Hren, a Finn, started their indelible mark on track and field history. It is now the home of the Montreal Expos and the Montreal Alouettes Canadian football side. The crowds of 60,000 and 68,000 respectively they have set at their previous stadiums. Some 70,000 were drawn there to concert last July by Pink Floyd. The roof was not yet completed. For major events held in the stadium in the first 12 months after the Olympics. The roof will be finished by the summer would be desirable, of course. If the provincial government when the issue was taken up next year to the Montreal Olympics. The supporting tower and retractable roof (estimated cost the additional \$500m (£26.7m) cost to the province) will be completed. The roof will be completed. At the moment that solitary car, like the one which carried the Olympic torch, remains, perched on the half-finished tower and the roof remains stored at its manufacturer.

Montreal is desperately anxious to stage the 1974 World Athletics Championships in the stadium. The argument is that the city will have the American Continent's turn with Africa or Africa the 1981 bi-s and the 1982 event as a rehearsal for the anticipated host of the 1984 Olympic Games. It is also by no

to the Olympics for a major international meeting but is in great demand by the public.

The new stadium is a main multi-purpose complex, the Velodrome and the Claude Robillard centre have both added concerts, conventions and other events to their offerings, to their purely sporting purposes.

All politicians have an enviable record of promising, with scarcely a thought for the consequences. It was fascinating this week to hear Mayor Jean Drapeau, unrepentant and apparently unbound, put forward the case for the 1976 Olympics defence yet again. Mayor Drapeau was quoted some years back to the effect: that it would be a pity to have a city to have a baby than for the 1976 Olympics to have a deficit. Varied and vast figures continue to be bandied about, but the Mayor and his staff agree that the final cost of the 1976 Olympics will be around Can \$51,500 million (\$300m) compared with Can \$10,000 million (\$50m) for the 1972 Olympics. The final price would be Can \$310m (£160m). The Provincial Government finally had to step in with a lifeline and a loan of Can \$100 million. The Olympics introduced to cover Montreal City taxpayers' contribution of Can \$100 million.

Answering questions Mayor Drapeau reminded us that all over the world people did not wish to pay for the Olympics. They were paying a particular tax. They had something to show for it, some new buildings, some new parks and some benefit to the city and would continue to do so. He believed that the majority of people's reaction to the Olympics was that the city now had something favourable.

Five years would be needed to pay back the money. He said that he had changed the games and after that he was positive everyone would be pleased with the final situation. He said that he had seen the money but they had been there—impossible to refute logically, and possibly correct as regards the

Tokyo, Sept. 21.—Adrian Paulen, president of the International

Amateur Athletic Federation
said today it hoped an agreement would be reached by October next year on China's bid to join the sporting body.

Mr Fanlun said in Tokyo after a three-day visit to Peking that there had been "fruitful discussions" with the Chinese Sports Minister, Wang Renhe, and the Chinese Olympic Committee. He said China had reiterated that there was only one China and that it was entitled to be expelled from the IAAF before it was expelled from the Olympic Games, in claiming they are right to be expelled from the IAAF.

"China," Mr Fanlun said, "is a unitary state. The IOC and congress would have to decide whether to admit China and expel the Republic of China. The final conclusion will be reached by October next year."

Mr Fanlun, who leaves for Europe tomorrow, is expected to attend the meeting of the Asian Amateur Athletic Federation in Tokyo on October 15. He said the Asian attitudes on the Chinese issue. He said he would also be taking part in the 1980 International Olympic Committee (IOC) president, Lord Killanin, who visited Peking last week.

Reporter

Stuttgart, Sept. 21.—East European weightlifters have had a dis-

appointing staff at the world championships here, winning only two gold medals in the first four categories, when at least three and possibly four were expected.

Tomorrow's light-heavyweight event should bring them an improvement, as the most fancied contenders include a Russian and two Bulgarians.

RESULT: Middleweight (smatch): 1.
V. Yordanian (Soviet Union), 142.5 kg; 2.
V. P. Weibel (East Germany), 150 kg; 3.
A. Starc (Hungary), 150 kg; 4.
Kolor (Bulgaria), 147.5 kg; 5. Y.
Milkov (Bulgaria), 147.5 kg; 6. D.
Zayns (Cuba), 146 kg.

cannot raise the roof

used again

will be interesting to see if the Olympics are an important issue in the next mayoral election which is due in November, 1978 Mayor Drapeau. If the local jungle drum can safely be interpreted by a visitor, might yet move on to wider spheres. He admitted he would not decide whether to stand for reelection until about three months before the election.

A bloc of 30 away from Mayor Drapreau's office, the work of the Olympic organisers, COJO, is gradually being wound up. The final task for the 35 survivors of the 22,000 employed by COJO at the games is the production of the official Olympic report, obligatory under IOC rules, and due to be completed by next March. Mr Gerry Snyder, originally mayor of Drapreau's top aide, is now president of COJO, having taken over from Mr Roger Rousseau, who resigned the Canadian diplomatic corps and been posted to Venezuela.

In fairness to COJO it should not be overlooked that outside the construction costs, the Montreal organizers actually finished with a profit of around \$330m (£70m). The profits were used to fund prizes, marketing activities such as a lottery, the sale of special coins and stamps and various licensing rights. The Federal Government legislation for these items and for construction work was delayed for so long that it is longer than might have been the case if the then Liberal Government had been in a stronger position. Mr Snyder believes much of the delay was caused by the fact that the over-the-hill members of Parliament would have been avoided if a prompt start had been made.

The Olympic village, which eventually cost three times and was 100 per cent over budget, is estimated to have been taken on at a late stage of planning and the \$100m (\$53m) bill for occupancy and other expenses was not anticipated. Mr Sawyer regretted the IOC insistence on one major village, saying it was a mistake. "I think the IOC should have provided for a number of smaller villages for competitors around existing accommodation and also their change of location about reducing the games in size."

Cojo's final report will elaborate on their problems in detail. He said that Los Angeles was keen from the start to criticize the 1984. The IOC themselves have lessons to learn if the sadder and more complex 1996 games are to be repeated anywhere else. "We must all other future games host cities and critics of Montreal as well as critics of Rio de Janeiro," he said. "I have been across in another part of Canada earlier in the week might not have been the same."

"Great Spirit, grant that I may be able to criticize my neighbour until I have walked a mile in his shoes."

By Peter West
 Precious Little Conviction, an
 over distribution too often on

[illegible][illegible]

threeway battle

The Australians, Don Allan and Danny Clark, opened up the first Madison Chase of the final night of the Skol six-day cycle race at Wembley and set the scene for a remarkable three-way battle. Allan and Clark were one lap up on the overnight leaders, Serco and Pijnen, after the first chase of the evening. That left the Australians second overall on points to the Belgium-Dutch

The Germans, Peiffen and Fritz also caught up Sercu and Pijnen. It was, however, Allan and Clark who looked fast and strong even after five days' hard racing. Their attacking springs left the rest of the field strung out and the overnight leaders had to chase hard to prevent them running

away with the race.

Leading positions: 1. P. Sarce (Belgium); 2. R. Plüner (Netherlands); 3. D. Allard and D. Clark (Australia); 4. Scipio; 5. W. P. Plüner and A. Fritz (West Germany); 6. Scipio; 7. A. G. Cowland (GB); and G. Haritz (West Germany), 71.7 sec, at 3 laps.

Greg Chappell, captain of the defeated touring Australian cricket team, flew home yesterday and

admitted that English cricket supporters may have seen the last of him as a player. His signing with Kerry Packer's cricket series means a ban of at least two years from international cricket.

When Chappell left Heathrow Airport, London, with his wife Judy, he said: "I would like to think that I will play cricket in England again, but who knows?"

"I certainly won't be able to play for the next two years, and I don't know what the position is regarding that," he said, adding that he hoped to continue playing in Australian club cricket for another three or four years, but he was not in any hurry to tour.

Chappell and his wife have been staying with friends in Devon and Chappell said: "It's only the second time Judy has been to England and the first time we've had a chance to get sightseeing. It was nice to have a holiday before I start playing again, probably in November."

Mario Andreotti has signed to lead the John Player-Lotus team

in the 1978 Formula One championship. It will be his third season with the team.

Milan, Sept. 21.—Rodrigo Valdes, of Colombia, will defend his World

Boxing Council middleweight title against Bennie Briscoe, of Philadelphia, in the Italian town of Campione, on November 5,

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WHAT WILL MR VORSTER PROVE?

Mr Vorster has called an election for November 30 1977 because he sees that mid-1979, the normal time for an election, will be very much worse. He has 123 seats in a House of 171 and to go to the country half way through his term when in such strength is a clear admission that the South African and the Nationalist Party are facing an unprecedented crisis. To that extent the point so promptly made by the various opposition leaders, that the decision is a confession of weakness, is well taken. But the approval of the Afrikaner organs of opinion also stems from deep-rooted instincts: in a tight corner show the world that your people are solidly behind you. This was the thinking of Mr Ian Smith's recent election and for what it is worth he got his unconditional vote of confidence. On a larger scale Mr Vorster seems to have a similar intention.

No doubt the inchoate condition of the opposition parties is a temptation. To pick up a few more of the former United Party seats, particularly those of the infant South African Party and the Republic Party, will enhance a show of white solidarity. By 1979 the wreckage of the United Party might have sorted itself into an opposition with a viable alternative, programme that would have acquired effective electoral appeal, when the failures of Nationalist policy will be more apparent. It is not impossible that Mr Vorster has his own retirement in mind, in which case the Nationalist Party needs time before the ensuing election to settle upon a suc-

cessor, and that successor would need time to work himself in.

The question must, however, be asked, what will a massive show of white South African solidarity behind the Nationalist Party really mean? It is hardly necessary to have an election at this stage to demonstrate that the majority of white South Africans reject ingenuous American proposals for a one man one vote franchise and the dismantling of the bantustan policy at an early date. These proposals, put forward tentatively by Mr Mondale in Vienna, were really a statement of American beliefs and ideals, and a declaration that the United States felt no necessity to hold white South Africa for the western world. South Africans may be angry about American policy, but no election will change it.

A Nationalist victory would only resolve the growing debate within the party itself if Mr Vorster plainly said in the campaign what precise policies such a victory would endorse—and repudiate any candidate to either side of him who talk out of line. He presumably will say that a vote for the party is a vote for some social change—notably for the plans for Coloured and Asian parallel pseudo-parliaments. He can easily get applause for a strong law and order line, and take this to exonerate the police over the death of Steven Biko.

But will he then come out for local self-government for Soweto and comparable black townships within white South Africa? Will he declare that black workers can have equal

pay and trade unions? On many such issues on the crumbling edges of the central commitment to "separate development," the Nationalists are deeply divided. Only explicit statements by Mr Vorster will show. If they are extracted from him, the election will clear the air a little.

Basically a massive vote of support for Mr Vorster and his carefully composed government of verkrampes and vertigies, will be a vote for apartheid, pseudo-independent bantustans, indefinite exclusion of the black majority from any share in national decision-making. It will hardly reflect the anxious and tentative new thinking among young Afrikaners, nor a changing mood among whites generally. It will stifle or swamp expression of this. Perhaps in 1979 it would have been reflected in some significant Progressive Federal Party gains. Next month the only gains the Progressives will make will be at the expense of other fragments of the United Party, which will clarify nothing.

If the election reassures South Africans that they can form a larger and defy the trends and pressures of the modern world, it will do them and their children a disservice. A siege or a steppe economy is no policy for a governing party, because it is not a solution to problems, nor does it promise victory or peaceful settlements. For who will raise the siege? In 1899 Paul Kruger declared war on the British. Mr Vorster challenges much more intractable if slower-moving foes in 1977—the world, and the late twentieth century. Unlike Kruger he has no sympathisers.

Attempt to unseat Tory MP

From Mr Neville Beale

Sir, With reference to the item today (September 21) on the one and the leading article concerning what you state to be the election of Chelsea's MP, Mr. Nichol Scott, may I state the following:

1. A private business meeting of the Standing Selection Committee of Chelsea Conservative Association was held this week to discuss a procedure for adoption of the prospective parliamentary candidate.

2. All those present agreed that nothing would be said in public before the Executive Council meeting next week.

3. Regrettably, some members of the committee have seen fit to break this agreement.

4. The resulting press reports have been inaccurate, and I am therefore obliged to state that ideological matters are not the main criticism which have been directed by members of this association against the Member of Parliament.

5. Dismissal of this allegation of ideological differences has been reflected in telephone calls and letters which I have received since the meeting from several of those present.

6. Suggestions that I have been leading a campaign against the Member of Parliament are quite untrue. The receipt and investigation of complaints against the Member started under my predecessor as chairman of the association.

7. Your suggestion that "Chelsea is almost the last place where one would expect the misfortune (sic) of private life to be used to damage a public career" is also unlikely to be appreciated in the constituency.

NEVILLE BEALE, Chairman, Chelsea Conservative Association, 14 Chelsea Manor Street, SW3, September 21.

From Mrs Diana Heimann
Sir, Eight years ago, Sir Nigel Fisher, MP, was facing the same problem in his constituency as Nicholas Scott has in Chelsea and Kensington.

At that time, Iain Macleod sent a letter to Sir Nigel saying, "I am sure I go to Chelsea and Kensington for my father to make the same declaration on Nick Scott's behalf."

I wonder which of his friends, colleagues and supporters will now stand up and be counted?

DIANA HEIMANN, Northdown House, Colchester, Essex, September 21.

From the Reverend Canon A. K. Walker
Sir, News these days is often depressing. I was heartened, therefore, to read of the sharply worded and sure reply given by the Conservative and the Birmingham Evening Mail to any suggestion that the See of Birmingham.

It is clearly important that a bishop should be non-controversial. The harmony of the social system might otherwise be threatened. We have only to read the histories of Isaiah, Jeremiah, St Paul and Jesus Christ to realize how inconvenient controversialists are.

Opposition to Concorde naturally indicated complete lack of appreciation of engineering skill and the needs of the aviation industry, which are the points at issue in the dispute. It allied him also with such simpletons as Arthur Koestler, Barones Stocks, and at least four Fellows of the Royal Society.

We might have relied upon Mr Beaumont-Dark to identify the bishop as an ass. Dostoevsky wrote a novel more or less called *The Ass*, and we can recall the indifferent public showing made by the hero of that tale. I stand behind my Birmingham colleagues. What the Church and Britain needs today is more responsibility but respectability: not prophets but safe men.

Yours sincerely, KEITH WALKER, The Precentor, St. Andrew's Cathedral, 100, Canon Lane, Chichester, Sussex, September 15.

Water colours gallery
From the Doughty Lady Davidson (Lady Northchurch)
Sir, My attention has been drawn to a report in your paper of the plight of the Royal Society of Painters in Water Colours which is facing a most difficult time in its long history.

The Society is appealing for funds to help towards the cost of a new gallery now being built on Bankside at Blackfriars. It has been successful so far in raising some £80,000 by covenants over the next seven years. It needs £200,000. There has been some support from industry, trusts and foundations and other well wishers, but more funds are urgently needed.

The RWS, founded in 1804, is the oldest and most distinguished water colour society in the world and it is a tragedy that rising rents and rates are forcing the Society to vacate its present premises in Conduit Street. The members are facing the challenge of establishing themselves in an entirely new area. Southwark Council are to be complimented on their cooperation in providing the new site and so securing such a cultural amenity. Water colour painting is part of our national art heritage and we should do our utmost to preserve such a precious jewel.

I write, not as a practising artist, but as a member of that great body of citizens who enjoy looking at pictures.

Our great city could be justly proud to sponsor such a worthy cause.

Yours faithfully, JOHN T. HUTCHINSON, Consultant Psychiatrist, King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, SE5, September 19.

Treating mental illness
From Dr John Hutchinson
Sir, Mr Christopher Price, MP for Lewisham West (September 15) criticises electro-convulsive therapy. If he had spoken to psychiatrists beforehand he would have learned that it can be given without causing memory impairment or a sense of terror. His suggestion that psychiatrists punish their patients is beneath contempt.

One of the reasons why Mr Price is so poorly informed about psychiatry is because Lewisham is the only district in South London to lack an inpatient psychiatric unit in a local hospital. His constituents who need such care have to travel to distant mental hospitals and feel unhappy about this situation without success. If Mr Price were to use his talents in persuading the authorities to establish such a unit, his constituents would be less deprived and he would be able to learn about modern psychiatric practice at first hand.

Yours faithfully, JOHN T. HUTCHINSON, Consultant Psychiatrist, King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, SE5, September 19.

Mrs Thatcher and the trade unions

From Sir Ian Gilmore, MP for Chesham and Amersham (Conservative)

Sir, Your leading article (September 19) "Calling in the people" largely observed that "Not much will be done by had from considering the wisdom or efficacy of a referendum in ignorance of the circumstances which prompt the making of it." Unfortunately you immediately forgot your own words, and in doing so you actually ignored the circumstances in which the proposal was made. Before Mrs Thatcher's interview, we were shown a film which both in its sheer shoddiness and in its political content was a passable imitation of a Labour Party political broadcast.

That film seemed to envisage something in the nature of a general strike in support of the miners' demands. Your criticism therefore that because of the policies likely to be followed by the next Conservative government only the Conservative Board and the NCM would be involved is plainly unjustified. Not even Professor Hayek himself would counsel government inaction in the face of a threatened general strike.

And your second implied criticism—that a lot of referenda would be undesirable—is equally wide of the mark, since even the most biased Labour propagandist could hardly expect (or hope) that such a situation would crop up very often. In fact, as Mrs Thatcher emphasized in the programme, it is highly unlikely to occur at all.

In attacking Mrs Thatcher, Mr Michael Foot tells us that "It is in the House of Commons that the community of Britain is supposed to make its final decisions on these matters." The House is to be directly answerable to the people.

Such little incidents as his bending the rules of the Commons, and when that stratagem failed fixing the vote, Mr Foot was a fervent proponent of referendum on the EEC, though the House of Commons had already made "its final decision" on that issue. And recently Mr Foot has been a supporter of breaking the constitutional convention of collective ministerial responsibility to the House of Commons by claiming to be allowed to oppose his own Government's Bill. Until Mr Foot's constitutional practice comes within shouting distance of his words, it would be seemly for him to keep his mouth shut on constitutional questions.

Of course referenda have their disadvantages, but in a free state a government's only support is public opinion. And in London Weekend's scenario the Labour Party, unless it has learned responsibility since 1973 (which seems unlikely), would be slavishly supporting the miners. In such circumstances a referendum would almost certainly be the most reliable way of discovering where public sympathy lay.

To what Koestler used to call an "iffy" question, only an "iffy" response can be made. But granted that Mrs Thatcher was asked a very hypothetical question indeed, she surely gave the best possible answer.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, IAN GILMORE, House of Commons, September 20.

From Mr P. J. R. Spira
Sir, The chorus of criticism of Mrs Thatcher's suggestions that in certain special and exceptional circumstances a referendum might be called to obtain the views of the nation on an extreme industrial dispute, is perhaps just a measure of the apprehension with which such a prospect is regarded by those who wish to see the rule of law weakened by organizations powerful enough to ignore it.

It must be recognized that in such circumstances the only power in

the land which can effectively be mustered against a powerful trade union which holds itself to be above the law is that evasive concept known as "public opinion". Surely what Mrs Thatcher is suggesting is that there may be circumstances which call for the galvanizing of such opinion which, if it supported a proposed line of action by the government, could make that action practical for the very reason that it would be seen to be supported not only by the people but also by the mass of the people—a very different proposition. The fact that the "mass of the people" would include vast numbers of moderate trade union members strengthens the argument. Yours faithfully, T. R. SPIRA, 1 St George Street, W.1, September 21.

From Mr David Mathieson
Sir, Contrary to what you seem to be arguing in your leader today (September 19), the announcement by Mrs Thatcher that, in the extreme event of a major government-union confrontation, she would call for a referendum is neither political camouflage nor irrelevancy, but is a sign of a strong determination not to end up in a "February 1974" situation.

Firstly, a national referendum could be used to give the Government the political authority to do nothing, to ride out a strike without becoming involved, and hence without being forced to concede to a union over the heads of an employer. This could well arise if a strike in the coal industry, a nationalized industry where the union has traditionally negotiated directly with the ministers involved.

Secondly, a referendum could give the Government the authority to take action against the effects of a strike, to ensure the maintenance of vital supplies and services, or to prevent the intimidation of workers not otherwise involved. One thinks of course of the many strikes which have led to the blockade of the power stations.

Mrs Thatcher has thus served notice that a Conservative government, armed with the affirmative vote of the electors, would meet any confrontation forced upon it with a resolve and a determination at least as strong as that of any union, and with the support of the majority of the electors.

Yours faithfully, DAVID MATHIESON, 31, Pinfold Drive, Epsom, Surrey, September 19.

From Mr D. E. Folkes
Sir, The contingency put to Mrs Thatcher in *Weekend World* on Sunday, September 18, was that the miners might price themselves out of work and go on strike because they had done so, and, having done so, get the active support of the whole trade union movement. She said, quite rightly, that it was unlikely to happen. Indeed, it is so unlikely that her suggestions of what she might do in such an improbable event are an important exception for propaganda purposes.

If I may use Marxist terms, anyone who thinks that these days there are workers who will price their labour out of employment and then get the active sympathy of the rest of the working class is labouring under a bourgeois illusion.

Yours faithfully, D. E. FOLKES, 5 Queen's Walk, Ealing, W5, September 19.

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Yours faithfully, D. E. FOLKES, 5 Queen's Walk, Ealing, W5, September 19.

Refugees from Vietnam
From the Chairman of the British Council for Aid to Refugees
Sir, Your leading article (September 15) about the plight of the South Vietnamese "boat people" quotes a figure of 151 being taken by Britain.

Some comment from the Council which has undertaken sponsorship of these people may be relevant. We do not think the question whether more "boat people" should be brought here can be considered in isolation. The country has a long and honourable tradition of offering asylum to refugees; but the number of refugees, as distinct from other immigrants, admitted to this country in the past five years has been very small, averaging no more than 1,000 a year. Fear of admitting more should not be allowed to override humanitarian considerations.

The problems of refugees, especially those of non-European origin, are difficult to solve, requiring resources of money, accommodation, jobs and local support. It may not be generally known that no reception centres are provided by government. It has been left to voluntary agencies to make their own arrangements. In so far as government has concerned itself with refugees once they have been given asylum, it has normally worked through the British Council for Aid to Refugees. BCAR at first mainly a coordinating council made up of societies working for refugees in this country, has over the years built up its own staff.

Arrangements for the reception and settlement of refugees, other than students looked after by World University Service, have in recent years usually been shared between BCAR's staff and that of Ockendon Venture, itself a member of our Council.

Our staff is at present stretched to the limit in attending to the cumulative needs of some hundreds of unsettled refugees of over 30 different nationalities who have been referred to us in the past two years. If larger numbers of refugees are to be admitted, whether "boat people" or others, many of whom are in equal need, more help in money and experienced personnel will have to be found. It is not mainly that available reception centres and staff to man them are fully occupied, but that local support groups would need to be set up in places where jobs, homes and schooling are most promising.

Yours faithfully, PHILIP BARBER, Chairman, British Council for Aid to Refugees, 35 Great Peter Street, SW1.

From Mr George H. Trenter
Sir, Your leader (September 15) is as humane as it is timely. May I compliment you on upholding the value of human lives and stressing our common responsibility towards fellow humans of whatever origin. This should be a universal obligation and you, so rightly, complain about the inadequacy of the support, if given at all.

What can be done, if there is good will, is illustrated by the following: In June a small Israeli cargo ship rescued from the high seas 66 Vietnamese refugees in distress and was not allowed to put them ashore as her port of call. The captain radioed the owners who, in turn, informed the Prime Minister of Israel. Mr Begin immediately gave permission for their entry into Israel and—to alleviate their misery—instructed that they should be flown in. I am glad to learn that the Vietnamese population in Israel has now increased to 67 due to the birth of a baby boy.

The total population of tiny Israel is about one third of the number of people living in London. What they can do, all can do.

Yours faithfully, GEORGE H. TRENTER, 19 Holyoake Walk, Hampstead Garden Suburb, N2.

Salvation Army marches
From the General of the Salvation Army
Sir, Believing that Britain's greatest present need is the acceptance by every citizen of Jesus Christ as Lord, Salvationists must view with dismay the well-intentioned ban for five weeks by Tameside Council of all processional marches.

From its inception The Salvation Army has seen the need to take the gospel to the man in the street, both by open-air meetings and by procession. With unbridled vigour, early-day Salvationists obeyed the maxim "The church bells say 'Come', The Army drum says 'Fetch em'".

The right to proclaim the gospel message in the streets was declared by the High Court in 1883 (*Beatty v Gillbanks* 9 QBD 308) and several times restored. That case was the culmination of a struggle for persons of an anti-materialist cast of mind, of which numbers of Salvationists were assaulted, imprisoned, and some even died.

In attempting to ban violence and brute force from our streets, let us not fall into the error of banishing also the unredeemable testimony of God's redeeming grace in human lives. Yours faithfully, ARNOLD BROWNE, General, Salvation Army, International Headquarters, EC4.

Reforming the Lords

From Mr Alan Campbell, QC

Sir, If the two great needs are less legislation and more control over the executive, it is possible that a new style of government and the setting up of an administrative court could do some way to dealing with these problems. But Sir Peter Rawlinson (September 13) not a little wide of the mark in suggesting that it would be frivolous to seek to reform the House of Lords unless members of the House of Commons were willing to subject themselves to partial annihilation? For whilst reflecting a unicameral system he hints at any useful consideration of reform of the House of Lords as being exclusively dependent upon an event which is not likely to happen. In the result the case of the abolitionist would remain unanswered, and the introduction of reform to strengthen bicameral system would be irrelevant.

Surely one must assume that the House of Commons will continue much as at present constituted when considering reform of the House of Lords? Such, it is suggested, is the correct attitude to take. It should be sought to satisfy the two great needs.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, ALAN CAMPBELL, Chairman, Constitutional Reform Committee, Secretary of Conservative Lawyers, Temple, EC4.

Made victim of strikes
From Mr D. J. E. Longridge
Sir, As we settled into our aircraft at Frankfurt airport this morning, the news that our arrival at Heathrow would be delayed only 25 minutes by the air traffic control strikes was received with relief. Particularly after being offered bread to take back by my German management.

Then the captain announced that there was also a baggage unloading problem and that the crew unloaded "the whole airport would probably come out". So he asked the German and British businessmen on board for six volunteers to unload the plane on arrival.

I am a senior executive of a major US multinational corporation. I am British. I have had enough. Yours faithfully, D. J. E. LONGRIDGE, 74 Chelsea Park Gardens, SW3.

Determining "fair wage"
From Mr A. J. Morgan
Sir, Mr F. A. J. Morgan of the Low Pay Unit assumes it is the responsibility of the employer to pay a "fair wage" to his employees. He is right insofar as the wage should bear some resemblance to the value of output.

If society decides that a fair wage is insufficient to provide decent minimum living standards then it is up to society to make up the difference. The person who employs a hairdresser at £23.35 a week is presumably able to offer a cheap and efficient service to those who desire to have their hair dressed. Why should he not?

Yours faithfully, A. J. MORGAN, 99 Albert Bridge Road, SW11.

The drink with haggis
From Mrs Pamela Vandkyke Price
Sir, While I have been abroad it seems that "the haggis has been flying low", to quote one of my friends at William Grant, who years ago introduced me to Standfast, Glenlivet and Balmoral.

Indeed I am aware that, on its native heath, the haggis may be traditionally accompanied by Scotch. But in my article, suggesting red wines suitable for certain types of modest game and sausage dishes, I was thinking of those readers who may opt for the blood of the grape, perhaps for reasons of economy, or because they are being cautious about drinking spirits for reasons of diet or driving, or simply because they and their guests like wine with their meals.

Being myself a devotee of haggis, black and white puddings, andouilles, boudins of all colours, multi-patterned salame and wurst of assorted seasons, plus, of course, the noble banger, I would drink a red wine with these on most occasions. My experience of haggis has not included the very peppery type, as mentioned by one of your correspondents, but in Catalonia, where I have recently consumed numerous regional sausages, including the superb butifarra, the red wines of the Penedès region were quite robust enough to balance the seasonings.

Yours truly, PAMELA VANDKYKE PRICE, 8 Queens Gate, SW7.

HIGHER DEPOSITS, EASIER TO SAVE

If a person wishes to stand for Parliament he must have his nomination paper signed by ten electors in the constituency of his choice must put down a deposit of £150 and must forfeit that deposit if he fails to win the support of at least an eighth of those who vote. These conditions have not been changed since 1918 and there is a growing body of opinion that believes it is time to bring them up to date. In a book published today Mr F. W. S. Craig, head of Parliamentary Research Services, points out that if that sum of £150 were to be adjusted to take account of the fall in the value of money in the meantime the figure would be £1,200. But he goes on to suggest a round figure of £1,000.

That is appropriate. What is needed is a sum that would be sufficient to deter frivolous candidates in search of a bit of notoriety and perhaps some cheap publicity. Every candidate has the right to send one free

communication through the post to each elector, which Mr Craig calculates to be worth £4,500 in free postage in the average constituency of 64,500 electors. It would be no infringement of democratic principle to make the least successful candidates risk more for this privilege. It would equally be wise to make it rather harder for those who are not serious candidates to get on the ballot paper at all by requiring that a candidate should have the support of fifty instead of ten electors. Allowing for the growth in the average electoral roll over the years, that too would not be unreasonable. Nor would it be an impediment to small parties with a modicum of public support.

At the same time, it is important that new rules should not discriminate against parties whose candidates have a serious political purpose. The only contribution that the gimmicky candidate can make is to enable the

tolerance of his fellow citizens to be displayed. But a party that is relatively small—which includes all parties except Labour and Conservative—and not sufficiently wealthy to be able to risk a sharp increase in the sum lost in deposits, is quite another matter. It is democratically healthy that such parties should not be prevented from contesting elections and thereby attracting the publicity that might win them a greater measure of support in the future. Yet that is just what might happen if the size of the deposit was increased substantially and the criterion for losing it was left unchanged. It would be right therefore to reduce the proportion of the poll required for saving a deposit—from an eighth to, say, a twentieth. That would still be more than the merely frivolous could hope to get, but it would mean that in deterring them one would not be driving serious parties from the polls.

WHO IS TO MAKE PEACE IN LEBANON?

In the past two days Israel has intervened more overtly and directly than before in the fighting in South Lebanon. Western correspondents in Israel have seen armoured troop carriers crossing into Lebanese territory. Western news agencies have reported from Lebanon that Israeli infantry and armoured vehicles crossed the border and "took up positions". The Israeli Prime Minister, Mr Begin, has publicly offered "to take part immediately in ceasefire talks to end the fighting in southern Lebanon".

This is a very interesting offer, not so much because it is an implicit admission of Israeli involvement (since Israel has for some weeks admitted giving artillery cover to the right-wing Lebanese forces) but rather because it prompts an obvious question: with whom would talks be held? Ceasefire talks are normally held between those who are doing the fighting. Who are Israel and her Lebanese Christian allies fighting against? There are still some ragged units of Lebanese leftists but the only forces of any

military consequence are Palestinians fighting under the banner of the Palestine Liberation Organization. Their supreme commander, who toured the front last weekend, is none other than Mr Yassir Arafat. It is therefore difficult to see with whom Israel could negotiate a ceasefire in South Lebanon, if not with the PLO.

The truth is that Israel has never been and never could be neutral in the Lebanese conflict because it was never a straightforward civil war but always a war fought by and about the Palestinians. Since the Palestinians had used Lebanese territory as a springboard for raids on Israel, Israel was bound to support those Lebanese who wanted to disarm the Palestinians. But those Lebanese were not enough to defeat the Palestinians on their own. The only Arab force strong enough to impose a ceasefire in Lebanon proved to be the Syrian army. And the only part of Lebanon where the Palestinians have remained an independent military power is the South, for the paradoxical reason that Israel would not allow the

Syrian army to enter that region.

Israel's motive for this is presumably that in a full-scale war the Syrian army is a far greater threat to her security than the PLO can ever be, and that she prefers to keep South Lebanon as a buffer zone rather than let it be incorporated into the Syrian front. There is also the danger that Syria might allow or encourage a resumption of Palestinian guerrilla raids on Israel as part of a war of attrition. Israel would prefer to see South Lebanon controlled by a neutral Lebanese army. The trouble is that in the wake of the civil war such an army is proving very difficult to construct, and is unlikely to be able to undertake the task for many months yet. Meanwhile Israel is more and more drawn in to trying to do the job herself. This is a dangerous course, which would lead logically to annexation. It would be better to let the Syrians move into the area, and have the lines between their forces and the Israelis policed by the United Nations, as already happens on the Golan Heights.

From Dr John Hutchinson
Sir, Mr Christopher Price, MP for Lewisham West (September 15) criticises electro-convulsive therapy. If he had spoken to psychiatrists beforehand he would have learned that it can be given without causing memory impairment or a sense of terror. His suggestion that psychiatrists punish their patients is beneath contempt.

One of the reasons why Mr Price is so poorly informed about psychiatry is because Lewisham is the only district in South London to lack an inpatient psychiatric unit in a local hospital. His constituents who need such care have to travel to distant mental hospitals and feel unhappy about this situation without success. If Mr Price were to use his talents in persuading the authorities to establish such a unit, his constituents would be less deprived and he would be able to learn about modern psychiatric practice at first hand.

Yours faithfully, JOHN T. HUTCHINSON, Consultant Psychiatrist, King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, SE5, September 19.

Water colours gallery
From the Doughty Lady Davidson (Lady Northchurch)
Sir, My attention has been drawn to a report in your paper of the plight of the Royal Society of Painters in Water Colours which is facing a most difficult time in its long history.

The Society is appealing for funds to help towards the cost of a new gallery now being built on Bankside at Blackfriars. It has been successful so far in raising some £80,000 by covenants over the next seven years. It needs £200,000. There has been some support from industry, trusts and foundations and other well wishers, but more funds are urgently needed.

The RWS, founded in 1804, is the oldest and most distinguished water colour society in the world and it is a tragedy that rising rents and rates are forcing the Society to vacate its present premises in Conduit Street. The members are facing the challenge of establishing themselves in an entirely new area. Southwark Council are to be complimented on their cooperation in providing the new site and so securing such a cultural amenity. Water colour painting is part of our national art heritage and we should do our utmost to preserve such a precious jewel.

I write, not as a practising artist, but as a member of that great body of citizens who enjoy looking at pictures.

Our great city could be justly proud to sponsor such a worthy cause.

Yours faithfully, JOHN T. HUTCHINSON, Consultant Psychiatrist, King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, SE5, September 19.

Treating mental illness
From Dr John Hutchinson
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Italian Communism

From Dr Donald Sassoon
Sir, Your report (September 17) from Rome on the Italian Communist Party "giving up Marx" may lead to some misunderstandings. According to the report, Professor Lombardo Radice of the party's Central Committee, has declared that "acceptance of Marxism-Leninism is a requirement of party membership and that by the next national congress this requirement would be abolished."

It is true that Article 5 of the party constitution states that among the duties of party members is the study of "Marxism-Leninism" and "its application to the solution of concrete questions", but in the same sentence there is a waiver stating "excepted for the norms of Article 2" which thus overrules Article 5. Article 2 states that in order to join the party a citizen must "irrespective of philosophical religious belief or the political convictions, accept the programme of the party" and be prepared to work on its behalf, pay the dues, etc.

This formulation has been in existence since the war and was specifically inserted to permit Catholics to join without having to give up their religious belief.

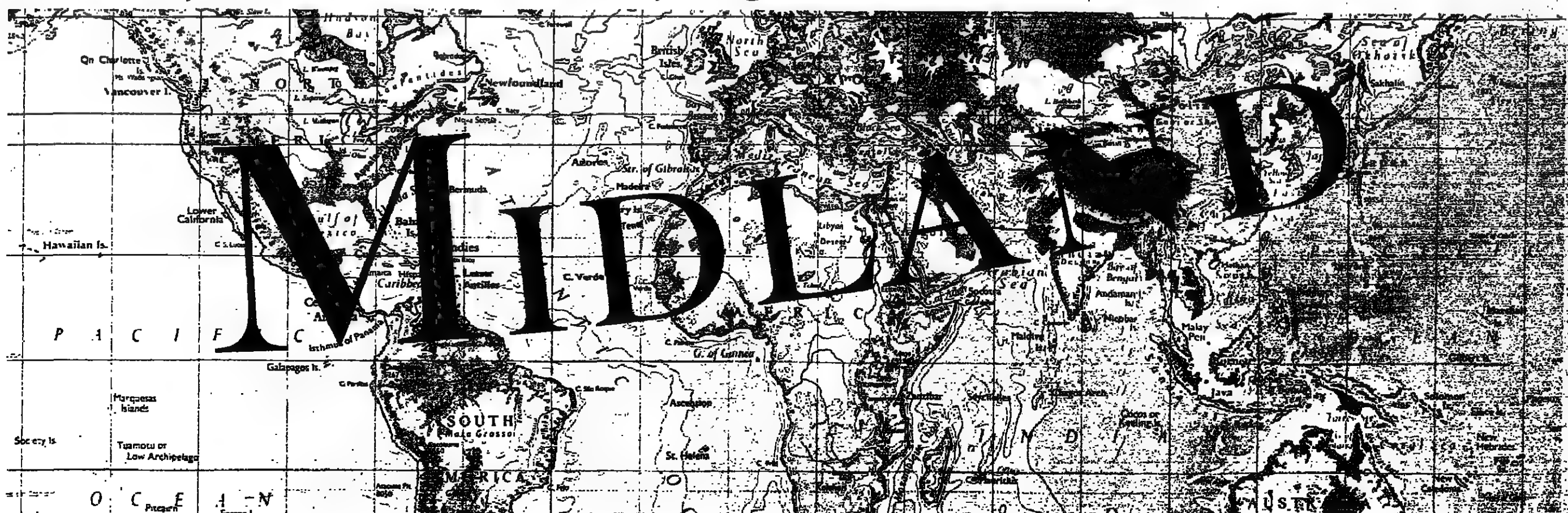
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John Foord
PLANT AND
MACHINERY
VALUERS

Mr Lever to study small firms' problems

By Edward Townsend

Mr Lever, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and the Cabinet's special economic adviser, is to make a study of the problems facing Britain's small businesses and recommend further ways in which they can be assisted by the Government.

Mr Lever's involvement in the issue follows a personal request from the Prime Minister. He is to be assisted by Mr. Bob Croyer, the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industry, who already has special responsibility for small businesses.

A statement from Downing Street yesterday said that Mr Lever would draw together the work that had been going on in various Whitehall departments and examine the effectiveness of the steps the Government had taken over the past two years.

The study was "part of the Government's recognition of the value of small firms to the future of the country."

Announcement of the study follows the disclosure on Tuesday by Sir Harold Wilson that the inquiry by his committee on the functioning of financial institutions had found the problems of small businesses had appeared more prominently than expected. Such companies were not "remote excrescences," he said, but accounted for about 30 per cent of employment.

The peculiar difficulties of the small business have also led the small firms council of the



Mr Lever: coordinating work of Whitehall departments.

Confederation of British Industry to compile a special report and yesterday the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry said it planned to set up a small business group and expand its services in finance and exports.

One of the main areas of discussion at the group's first meeting on November 15 is to be the availability of finance which, says the chamber, is to form the basis of a regular summary of sources of finance starting in November.

The Downing Street statement added: "The Government believes that small firms have a significant role to play in regenerating the industrial base so vital to the economy. Ministers regard the smaller businesses as an important source of innovation, enterprise and industrial development which make a significant contribution to employment and output, especially in inner cities."

Mr Lever has been asked to begin his study immediately so that the Government can reach early conclusions on further "desirable and practical" measures.

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Russia claims breakthrough in power generating technology

From Roger Vielvoys
Istanbul, Sept 21

The Soviet Union claimed at the world energy conference here today to have made a major breakthrough in electricity generating technology. Mr Konstantin Lavrenko, a member of the Soviet state department of science and technology said the USSR had a prototype power station running on the magnetic hydro-dynamic principle, and was drawing up designs for a full-scale commercial station that would be operating in the mid-1980s.

MHD replaces the conventional turbine generator equipment at a power station, and works by turning the generating fuel into very high temperature gas, which is passed through a magnetic field to produce electricity. The basic concept of MHD has been known for many years, and in the 1950s and 1960s considerable time and £4m was spent in Britain on an unsuccessful attempt to prove the commercial feasibility of such a system.

Mr Lavrenko claimed that the 300 megawatt prototype built just outside Moscow in co-operation with a number of American companies was achieving efficiencies in fuel conversion of 50 per cent, compared with the 40 per cent efficiency of the best conventional turbine generator stations, and an average of around 30 per cent.

Electricity produced from the plant, which burns natural gas and low sulphur fuel oil, used 25 per cent less fuel, 75 per cent less cooling water, had cleaner exhaust gases and produced electricity that was 15 per cent cheaper than by conventional means.

The 500 MW plant for the mid 1980s would use coal as a generating fuel and would, because of its clean exhaust gases, be part of a combined heat and power system in industrial areas.

Mr Lavrenko, speaking at a press conference, said there was a possibility that in the future the super heated gases from a high temperature nuclear reactor might be fed into an MHD generating system.

American assistance on the prototype was given under a cooperative agreement with the American Research and Development Administration, and involved engineers from Avco, General Electric, Westinghouse, Rockwell International and Reynolds Metals.

Mr Michel Pecqueur, director of the French Commissariat à l'Energie Atomique told the conference that 10 large nuclear fuel reprocessing centres could meet world demand for recycling of spent fuels by the year 2000.

During a discussion on the control of the use of plutonium, he disputed any case for delaying recycling, which he described as the safest way of handling spent nuclear fuel. Technical and safety aspects of reprocessing presented no insurmountable problems, although he admitted that the question of proliferation of nuclear weapons as a result of reprocessing had to be taken very seriously.

Istanbul, Sept 21.—Oil prices are likely to soar uncontrollably after 1985 if alternative sources of energy are not available, according to a report presented by the conference's conservation committee. "Crude oil reserves are running out," said the report. "The years 1985 to 1995 seemed critical. If the demand for petroleum continued at that time and if there was not sufficient availability of coal and nuclear electricity, there would probably be an oil shortage and oil prices are likely to rocket uncontrollably." —UPI.

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Mr Healey stresses protectionist dangers to Barbados meeting

From David Blake
Economics Correspondent

Bridgetown, Barbados, Sept 21

A warning of the danger to world prosperity from rising protectionist pressures in the industrial nations came today from Mr Healey.

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This question of conditionality is likely to come back with extra vehemence next week because the developing countries feel that once a country starts to borrow from the IMF above its first practically unconditional "tranche" it loses sovereignty over its economy.

There is a feeling that the IMF does not take account of the political and social problems countries face when it is determining the conditions for loans.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Astonishing trend towards false economy in UK export philosophy

From Mr G. A. Bower

Sir, A sound export policy remains a crucial item in the economic armoury. It can induce a healthy increase in employment. Wise use of its surplus can provide scope for cheaper imports, to keep inflation down. And yet Western Europe—with the possible exception of France—has shown a lamentable lack of will and purpose in its recent export strategy: a history of lost opportunities with no change in sight.

Three examples illustrate current British export philosophy: an astonishing trend towards false economy in the export of services, the export of goods, and the export of technology.

(a) The proposed charges for the export promotion services of the Department of Overseas Trade may be "irritant, trivial, and will probably produce a revenue which is less than the cost of collection. The discouraging effect, however, is bound to be serious, as will be the intended cut-back in assisting participants in overseas trade fairs.

What is needed can only be achieved by more efficient involvement in the promotion of worthwhile serious commercial effort.

(b) The dispersal policy recommended in the Harman Report will seriously affect the Export Credits Guarantee Department, which is being years' standing. I am dismayed that the irresponsible attitude of some typists can jeopardize the reputation of secretaries as a whole.

During training it was impressed upon me that efficiency in shorthand, typing and spelling had to be matched by reliability, loyalty, discretion and common sense. But schools are now turning out hordes of young ladies who can type and take shorthand, but little emphasis seems to be laid on the vital personal qualities.

It is not now time to turn back the clock and train more boys to become secretaries. Provided wages continue to be good, employers should be able to count on longer service from young ladies who do not mind the from post to post so readily as do girls. Also marriage and the fathering of children does tend to stabilize them in their careers.

DOROTHY HOVELL (MRS),
22 Allen Avenue,
Faberborough.

From Mrs D. Howell
Sir, Mr Woolard's letter to the effect that the United Kingdom's experience last year shows that the fund will be reasonable if a country approaches it.

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crossed like an ordinary branch of the Civil Service. Arrangements have already been initiated for a move, from London to Cardiff.

In the course of years the ECED has become the fulcrum of export policy and the commercial community needs the personal contacts, accessibility and immediate response for decision making which the hour of the day, within the hour.

This work, supported by quick interchange of information from Whitehall and the City, is a dynamic necessity for both visible and invisible exports.

The relocation of the department in a computerized story tower (with indifferent rail connections) will ultimately result in a permanent loss to exports the real cost of the upheaval.

With its change of staff and its change of location, the department should have made the whole exercise unthinkable right from the start.

(c) The Think Tank's recommendation to concentrate on commercial representation in overseas posts may, at first, appear as a positive response to present-day needs. Surprisingly so, since exporters—like farmers—are used to having their complaints taken for granted. However, this suggestion comes as part of an economic

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nommy package and includes a cut-back on other important functions. As shown in Mr Sharman's perceptive letter on consultancy (August 10) overseas representation is a complex matter and only within a wider range of the cultural and diplomatic spectrum will commercial interests find a natural and fruitful place.

International trade is a highly technical and difficult activity. It depends on personal contacts and know-how. It feeds on centuries of tradition and continuity; it has to rely on a host of services and service industries. To keep abreast with modern techniques and competition, it requires increasing speed and skills, flexibility and strength. There is need for occasional pruning, which is frequently met by the all too violent changes in the international economic climate. However, it cannot flourish in isolation for long, especially where the official hatchet is being rashly applied near its foundations.

GARY BOWER,
Chairman,
Association of Shippers to Africa,
Kingsway House,
103 Kingsway, London, WC2C 6JH.
September 17.

Conduct of the external auditor

From Mr Alison Miller
Sir, While I endorse Mr King's call for more efficient accounting systems (September 14), his article gives a grossly misleading impression of the conduct of the external auditor.

Although the Institute of Chartered Accountants' motto is *Recte numerare* (to count correctly), my auditor would like his fee will also examine his client's accounting system and appraise its effectiveness. Such evaluation is primarily aimed at determining whether the system provides a reliable basis for the preparation of accurate financial accounts.

However, any cost saving measures which this examination brings to light will be drawn to the client's attention in the 'value for money' report, together with a report on whether the control which could affect the accuracy of the accounts. This is done because the majority of auditors wish to give an effective service to their clients in every area that comes within the scope of their review.

No auditor would sign an unqualified report on a company where a material figure in the accounts, such as year-end stock, is unsupported by external evidence. The type of firm which uses stock to balance the required profit figure is unlikely to have very satisfactory accounting procedures. It is only an internal audit department staffed by trained accountants.

Yours faithfully,
ALISON MILLER,
115 Essex Place,
Essex College Road,
London NW3.

Home loans and the tax man

From Dr Peter B. Baker
Sir, Perhaps Mr Morgan (September 20) does not have such a helpful building society as myself. I belong to the Britannia and each year after April 5 I write the society for a loan sum paid by me in interest over the past twelve months. The society reply by return of post and I am able to fill in both my annual tax return, and the application for my wife's current education grant.

This year I was able to check my tax return against my tax paid and received a refund of £29. I am not sure that I would have achieved this sum had I not (as an individual) asked for my total interest paid.

This may be a costly business for the societies to perform, certainly for me filling in grant forms it is necessary information. In these days of rapidly changing interest rates it must be very difficult for the tax offices to check returned forms. However, the society's computers are able to perform this sum.

Incidentally, each December 31 I receive an annual statement of my mortgage account. It would be a great deal more useful if this were broken down thus involving the society in much less work than individual preparation of figures, as is current practice.

Yours faithfully,
PETER BAKER,
6 Poplar Road,
Merton Park,
London, SW19.
September 20.

English system of house purchase

From Mr G. Steele
Sir, Your readers must be getting tired of the correspondence, coming and going, to and from the letter from Professor A. J. Eccles (September 19) comparing the Scottish system of house purchase with the English system has confused rather than clarified the original correspondence and I hope you will find room for this reply.

In my last letter (September 9) I attempted to defend the procedures customary in England, causing some delay, and as the early time passed out that the English system was so flexible that contracts could be signed immediately if the parties so desired, subject to the point mentioned. Professor Eccles complains of his experience of purchasing a house in London but apparently the only reason for delay is that the local search has not been completed. This hardly strikes at the root of the English conveyancing system and had Professor Eccles and his vendor wished to sign a conditional contract presumably it could have been done long ago.

In England a vendor will usually not wish to commit himself to a sale until he is able to commit himself to a new purchase otherwise he may find himself without a house. Similarly, a purchaser does not normally commit himself until he has received a written mortgage offer, satisfactory replies to enquiries in the local authority registers, a satisfactory survey report, and a binding contract for the sale of his present property. When all these criteria have been met the various parties involved exchange contracts (usually in English contracts) are not changed between solicitors until an intending purchaser's mortgage is confirmed.

House purchase in England is not a simple matter. It is a complex process involving many parties and a great deal of time and money. The Scottish system, which is based on a single contract, is much simpler and more efficient.

Richard Stoker (September 19) refers to the purchasing couple who, after changing his mind, they lost the survey fees paid to the building society as a result but I understand this can happen in Scotland also because sometimes the surveyor's report is changed between solicitors until an intending purchaser's mortgage is confirmed.

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EEC nations urged to develop electronics

By Kenneth Owen

Technology Correspondent

The European Commission in Brussels intends to propose a Community-supported programme for the development of advanced microelectronic circuits in Europe. The proposals are due by the end of this year.

This was disclosed in London yesterday by Mr Christopher Layton, of the Commission's Directorate of industrial and technological affairs. He was addressing a computing conference organized by the Diebold organization.

The United States held a world lead in large-scale integration (LSI) circuitry, he said, and Japan had already mounted a substantial programme to leapfrog the Americans into the next stage, that of very large-scale integration (VLSI).

Because of the key role of microelectronics in many industries and products, "we believe in the Community there is a need for a VLSI programme, quite expensive, with significant support from public funds".

Discussing the Commission's policy for the computing and related industries

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Rossing defers hopes of RTZ growth

Attributable interim profits at Rio Tinto Zinc were actually 29 per cent ahead at £42.3m, or 32.34p a share, but the savings given to the shareholders yesterday would hardly have led to such a conclusion. But the market had been looking for earnings of between 35p and 45p so the shares fell 20p to 216p having touched 211p at one point.

This was not all. Having gone through the "laccage gap" on dividends, RTZ is now proposing a 4.8 per cent dividend increase only for this year, whereas market hopes had been for as much as 25 per cent more.

The point, of course, is that profits will be below those of last year unless the metal prices pick up sharply now which seems unlikely. So earnings will be back to the level of 1975.

The mining industry is currently passing through the eye of the storm—Inco and

around £1,500 a ton against a price of £2,400 quoted in the commodity markets. But its differential over Cadbury's is probably not very marked and the view that Rowntree's forward cover is much better than Cadbury's is probably exaggerated. In any case, the advantage would swing back in Cadbury's favour if prices fell.

The more important factors are that Rowntree has a better product mix to cope with high cocoa prices, and consequently with violent swings in prices, and that its policy of sticking to its last appears to have been a better management decision than Cadbury's diversification.

After an 8 per cent volume rise in confectionery sales in the United Kingdom last year there has since been a decline. Yet overall, including a maintained increase overseas, Rowntree has improved its volume by around 3 per cent.

The 30 per cent of United Kingdom sales in sugar confectionery helped, but the group also claims an increase in market share in chocolate, which must mean an improvement in the sales of its "mixed" brands such as Kit Kat—45 years old and still growing—against the "block" chocolate which is Cadbury's forte.

Certainly its volume increase has been dependent on price, and this in turn has improved margins, helped again by reduced interest charges, as a result of last year's rights issue. But market share once gained is not easily given up, and with strong and growing overseas penetration there will be substantial benefits to flow from the £65m capital expenditure programme, £25m of which is being made this year.

The trusts are still sellers—The Joseph Rowntree Memorial Trust sold 10,000 at 400p yesterday, but the market believes that such selling is no longer a worry. A 21p rise to 354p yesterday gives a prospective yield of 3.14 per cent, but on prospective earnings of 42p there is more than five times cover and Rowntree still looks a good long term performer.

Redfearn Rockware provides a British alternative

There is a clear prima facie case for referring Rockware's bid for Redfearn National Glass to the Monopolies Commission. A monopoly is defined as 25 per cent of the market. Rockware has close to a third of the British glass container business and Redfearn another 15 to 17 per cent.

Rockware will argue that it is more important to look at the container market as a whole, since glass is often in competition with cans and plastic containers, and it says the combined group would only have 17 per cent of the wider business. It will point out that United Glass also has around a third of the glass container market so there would continue to be strong competition.

But it is the presence of the rival Rheem bid which is the real ace for Rockware. United Glass is 50 per cent American owned, and the prospect of control of Redfearn passing to the United States too might weigh heavily in Rockware's favour when the Secretary for Prices and Consumer Protection considers the issue.

Otherwise it is hard to see how Rockware would have dared to chance such a bid. Aside from its own position there is also that of Pilkington to think of. Only this year the Monopolies Commission rebuffed Pilkington's bid for UK Optical, and the authorities might not now view kindly the prospect of Pilkington taking its near 20 per cent stake in Rockware up to 25 per cent of a much enlarged glass container group.

Meanwhile Rockware's 320p offer, although 20p above Rheem's unsatisfactory partial bid, proposes to take out Redfearn on a fully-taxed price of around 9, which is far from a knockout blow.

John Edwards (right) has to interpret the meaning of the term 'independent trade union'. On his judgment qualifying certificates are issued. But the TUC is annoyed with the way the system works. Christopher Thomas reports.



A spot of bother over the unions which got in on the Act

An important piece of industrial relations legislation for which the TUC was largely responsible has, in the view of most union leaders, gone miserably and embarrassingly wrong. And there seems little chance of putting it right during this Parliament.

To the intense annoyance of the TUC members a host of non-affiliated bodies have got through the net and become legally defined as independent trade unions. Once they get an independence certificate a whole range of advantages immediately accrue.

It was not at all what the TUC wanted. When the concept of independent unions was introduced into the Employment Protection Act it was thought the criteria for independence would exclude most, if not all, the non-TUC bodies.

In fact, the latest figures are that of 260 unions granted certificates, 117 are not members of the TUC.

The man in the middle of the political fray is Mr John Edwards, the certification officer, the independent statutory authority appointed by the Employment Secretary last February, who has to interpret the definition of an independent trade union in the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act.

How does he interpret the definition? "A simple test is willingness to take industrial action. I may not say that is the only way you can satisfy the test. One has to make a judgment about the ability and readiness of the body concerned to stand up to the management and look after its members' interests."

If there is evidence that the body is completely tame and not able or willing to take a tough line—if it just touches its cap to management—then that is a block mark. It is sometimes a difficult decision to make."

With pay bargaining in abeyance, the minutes of meetings with the management and minutes of executive meetings. It all helps to understand the atmosphere.

The legal definition of an independent trade union is: "A trade union which (a) is not under the domination or control of an employer or a group of employers or of one or more employers' associations; and (b) is not liable to inter-

ference by an employer or any such group of employers (arising out of the provision of financial or material support or by any other means whatsoever) tending towards such control."

The legislation is gaping with holes. For example, the certification officer is not required, or even able, to take into account the effect which the issue of a certificate might have on good industrial relations. He cannot consider whether the development of a new trade union in a particular area is desirable or not.

Also, and it is a crucial point, he cannot take account of the effectiveness of the body. That very point has been brought into an important case at an employment appeal tribunal before Mr Justice Forbes.

He said in his judgment: "In view of the many important advantages which accrue under the modern industrial relations legislation to an independent trade union it might, perhaps, have been expected that one of the more important criteria in deciding independence would be effectiveness in representing the interests of its members."

The case involved the Squibb UK Staff Association, which was originally refused a certificate, but granted one by Mr Justice Forbes on appeal. It covers staff of Squibb & Sons, which has a factory at Moreton, Cheshire, and a London office.

There are other questions whether a union with 250 members with £1,100 in the bank would be able to take industrial action or litigation. But the Act confined itself to requiring independence from control by the employer. He therefore overruled the certification officer, and granted a certificate, although he expressed his own disquiet about doing so.

Divided staff representation can be a collective bargaining arrangement which is graphically demonstrated in the continuing and worsening feud between the two bodies representing staff in the English clearing bank.

The TUC-affiliated National Union of Bank Employees has a certificate of independence; so does its rival, the Confederation of Bank Staff Associations. Their rivalry bedevils pay talks, and the house has already been pushed through despite the uncertain future of the power engineering industry, which so affects both companies that many in the industry thought it would never happen.

McDonald's appointment as chief executive at Rayrolle Parsons is generally credited to the arrival as chairman of Sir James Woodson. Sir James was already chairman of Clarke Chapman, and at the time the natural order of things would have seemed to suggest a Clarke Chapman man as chief executive were the two groups ever to get together.

The fact that the job has gone to a Rayrolle man is a tribute to the fact that although he was already obliged to charge more for tickets than he wanted, last year after the airline to charge for in-flight drinks. Still, he said, it might get back some business. One shipping firm was no longer sending out its seamen on his company's planes, he said, because it took too long to them them out on arrival.

bodies, although they might have got away with it had they done the job properly in the first place. And so, to their delight and surprise, the non-TUC unions have been handed an immensely useful gift without even asking for it.

Mr Edwards said: "I am not taking a view as to whether staff associations are a good or bad thing. That is nothing to do with me. My function is a specific and narrow one. It is important for me not to appear in any way to be taking sides between TUC unions and non-TUC unions. The only thing I am concerned with is independence."

The most important advantage of an independence certificate is that it opens the way to the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service, which in turn opens up a wide range of privileges and benefits.

It is not that a non-TUC body would necessarily want to use any of those benefits, but the certificate does make them respectable and gives added status.

What are the benefits? Only a certificated union has a right to the "disclosure of information" provision: the right to consultation about redundancies and the right to advance notification accrues to independent unions only; the right to appoint safety representatives is confined to certificated bodies. There are other advantages but by far the most important is the opening of the door to ACAS.

A final word from Mr Edwards: "There is a lot of strong feeling on this subject. But I have to be objective and judicial."

A simple answer to the question why is unemployment now so high is just that output is so low. Official figures released this week show that GDP was actually lower in the first half of this year than 12 months ago. It seems implausible that there is no spare capacity in the

Economic notebook

Unemployed, naturally?

The British are noted for their tolerance. But few would have expected them to tolerate, with scarcely more than token complaints, a doubling in the rate of unemployment in the last two and a half years.

However, with the underlying rate of adult unemployment now 6 per cent and rising, this tolerance could soon end. Already the Government is planning measures to boost the economy and slow the rise in the number out of work.

This may not be simply because they believe that unemployment loses more votes than higher inflation; after all, there were still 94 per cent of the labour force in work.

But decelerating inflation and a growing surplus on the balance of payments means attention can turn to the jobs.

Does the Government have the power to influence anything other than the very short term?

There are many who believe that it does not. The "natural" rate of unemployment will assert itself whenever a non-inflationary budgetary policy is followed, with a steady expansion in the money supply. And attempts to raise the level of employment above its "natural" rate will simply accelerate the rate of inflation.

This is an old argument in terms of the monetarist identity: $M = P \times Y$, or the statement that the stock of money in the economy, M , times the rate at which it changes hands, Y , has to equal the level of prices, P , times the level of activity.

The Government can change the amount of money in the economy but, say the natural rate adherents, it can do nothing (at least by short-term demand management) to change the level of output and employment. The economy will tend to full employment of all resources, with the costs of the factors of production adjusting to equate supply and demand.

If there is an apparent surplus of labour it is a result of excessive real wages, so that the labour cannot be employed to produce goods at a price which will sell at home and abroad and still allow an adequate return on capital.

If this means that governments can only sit and watch helplessly as the number of jobs rises to new heights, it poses a major problem for society.

There are, however, many difficulties with the concept of natural unemployment. What is it, if it is not full employment? How can it be measured? Can it change, and, if so, why and how? Most importantly, why has it jumped so sharply in the past four years? Or, if it has not risen, why has unemployment itself increased with so little effect on inflation?

A simple answer to the question why is unemployment now so high is just that output is so low. Official figures released this week show that GDP was actually lower in the first half of this year than 12 months ago. It seems implausible that there is no spare capacity in the

economy which could be brought into profitable use if there were an increase in spending power and thus in the level of demand.

But there are still those who believe that there is no short-fall in demand, and therefore no scope for higher output and more jobs, given the present level of wages in Britain relative to those abroad. So if Britons are given more money to spend, through government action, they will spend it on imported goods. If they try to spend it at home, another bout of wage inflation will be set off.

This is a very gloomy conclusion. It implies that the trade-off between unemployment and inflation has worsened permanently and dramatically.

However, some growth, even without any government action, is already under way with real incomes now beginning to rise again. Unfortunately, the cyclical slow-down in output, and consequent rise in unemployment, has been so severe in this recession that it will take a long period of sustained and fairly rapid growth to bring down unemployment.

The crucial question for the longer term is whether Britain can again achieve a high level of employment without this leading to rapid wage inflation, followed by a balance of payments crisis, and, ultimately, another slow down.

There are reasons to suppose that the level of unemployment consistent with an "acceptable" rate of inflation (for practical purposes defined as the average level of inflation in competing countries) and a balance of payments is now higher than in the 1950s and 1960s.

A slower response in the labour market to changes in supply and demand is one. The growth of union power coupled with expectations of rising real wages has made it harder to cut real wages. Devaluation can no longer be relied on to balance international demand, as wages catch up quickly with the changed exchange rate.

If Britons try to pay themselves too much, in relation to their production, jobs at home will be sacrificed for those abroad.

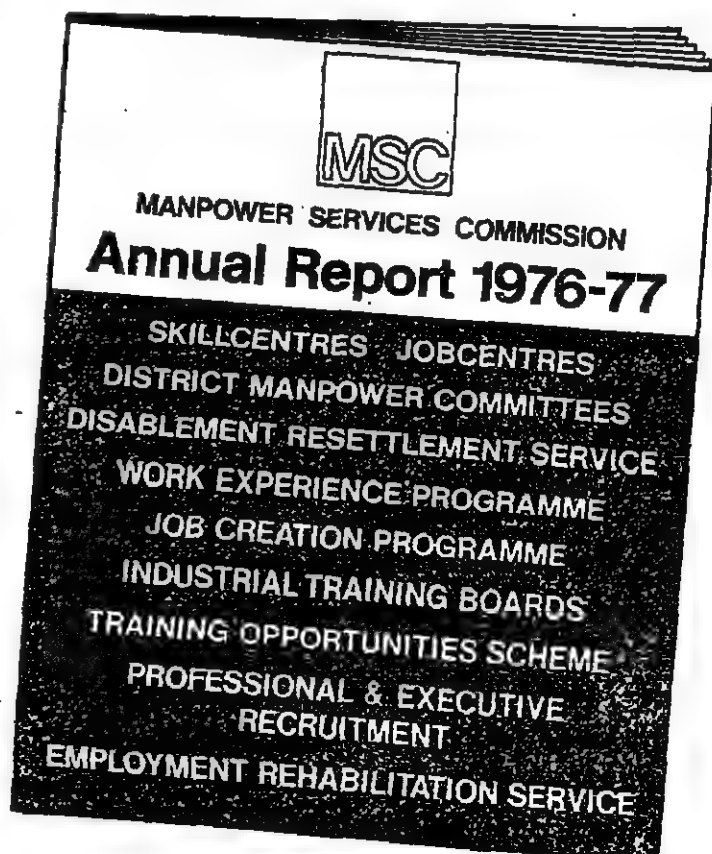
Secondly, it has been suggested that the recent fall in the level of investment relative to the level of output is a long-term, rather than merely cyclical, phenomenon. Just as the very high proportion of investment in output in the earlier postwar period has been held responsible for the high level of employment, so a fall in this ratio would lead to fewer job opportunities.

If real wages remain high in relation to the return on capital at home, and the level of wages abroad, there is little that the government can do to bring down unemployment (without resorting to direct import controls, which may not be possible, let alone desirable).

But a return to some real growth in the next year could allow both a rise in real wages and the provision of more jobs. Easier fiscal and monetary policy could help that growth.

Caroline Atkinson

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Business Diary: EMI's quickstep • BR's EEC arrival

The £1.8m which EMI is paying for 12 dance and cabaret clubs belonging to John Smith's and Stan Henry's Bailey Organization is a high figure, according to Mecca chairman Eric Morley.

Morley, who has had 30 years in the business and brought Mecca up from 12 ballrooms to 120, now faces big competition from EMI, which is to spend another £1m doing up the Bailey night spots.

Kank, some time ago began to ease its way off the dance floor. "I was offered the Bailey clubs but I turned them down," Morley told Business Diary last night. "I say good luck to EMI."

Dancing took a dive last year because of the hot weather, but it has since picked up. EMI's managing director of leisure enterprises, says that he is satisfied that it is a stable market.

EMI came into the dancing business some years ago through Blackpool Tower Company and snapped up the Bailey offer after the success of taking over the Empire Ballroom, Leicester Square, from Mecca last April.

Knight says that the Bailey formula of cabaret and dancing will probably remain, but he is particularly keen to catch the 17 to 35-year-olds.

Smith and Henry's South Shields-based private company retains about half a dozen clubs in the North-east as well as a dozen or so casinos and bingo halls.

David Bowick, vice-chairman and chief executive of British Rail, is to become the first



BR's David Bowick: his turn on the whistle.

chairman of the "Group of Nine", the EEC railways pressure group.

Bowick takes over from the chairman and director-general of Dutch Railways on Tuesday, the day after the start of a group meeting in London.

On the agenda are three main things: the strengthening of technical and making rolling stock more compatible, the harmonizing of accounting methods to make performance comparison easier, and the updating of the list of European branch lines that are to be developed.

So far as Britain is concerned, Bowick will be able to report the latest plans to start a high-speed, diesel train service between King's Cross and Edinburgh next year, as the (electric) advanced passenger train service between Euston and Glasgow in 1979-80.

Another big transport event in which Bowick will be

involved next week is a four-day international symposium organized by the Conference of European Ministers of Transport.

The BR vice-chairman will be host to about 250 delegates at ministerial, civil servant and senior management level from 23 countries, who on Friday are to visit Bath by high-speed train.

Bowick's Group of Nine, appointment is within the framework of the International Union of Railways, and means that he will take a leading role both in its discussions involving the future of European railways and as a spokesman for the group in contacts with the European Commission and Council of Ministers.

John Concannon, the Minister of State, Northern Ireland Office, could have chosen an easier target than the Belfast textile machinery makers James Mackie and Sons in making a test case on pay control.

He has given the firm until now today to backtrack on a 22 per cent pay offer. On the face of it, Concannon can hurt the firm, for he is threatening to block applications for export credit guarantees. Mackie's export about nine-tenths of their production. Not one would have thought a firm the Government should try to drive out of business.

Mackie, however, one of Britain's larger family-controlled private companies, does not have a history of giving in easily. Now 131 years old, only last year did Mackie's design to treat with AEUW and TGWU representatives—and

that was after a 10-week strike. Even now, union leaders are still waiting for details of a scheme announced without consultation a year ago under which all shares in the company were made over to trust, presumably as a way round capital transfer tax.

Mackie management now tend to show stewards, but it accords them neither office nor telephone facilities and has yet to recognize the works committee.

It remains a mysterious firm. The effective chief executive is believed to be not a Mackie, although there are lots of them about either in management or as owners or controllers of shares—but an outsider, the company secretary, Jim Rogers.

A spokesman for the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions told Business Diary yesterday: "Mackie's have always shown themselves to be a very independent firm and I think they will have something up their sleeves on this issue."

If one man were to be credited with the recent improvement in the fortunes of Rayrolle Parsons, and therefore the ability to resist Sir Arnold Weinstanley's rationalization of the turbine generator industry, he would be chief executive Duncan McDonald.

At Rayrolle Parsons he has been in charge of the switchgear division, where profits are moving sharply ahead, and he gave both the workforce and the City confidence that the group has a future despite the falling demand for turbines.

It therefore comes as little

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Gold shares and long gilts glister

Long gilts held most of the spotlight as equities languished close to their overnight levels lacking the impetus to make a pronounced move either way.

Fixed-interest dealers reported a small but persistent demand for the longer maturities which brought gains of three-quarters and occasionally a full point.

"Shorts" were subdued at first by the imminence of the £800m "cap". But they quickly rallied in the wake of their longer brethren and by the end had all but wiped out losses which had stretched to half a point.

Though general trade in equities was at a minimum a good sprinkling of actual and potential takeover stocks, a long list of company statements and a strong market in gold shares provided enough diversion for most dealers.

Having stayed just above its overnight level for most of the session the FT Index reverted to unchanged at 3 pm and finally lost ground to close 2.3 lower at 520.0.

Down went Stano-Platt Industries by 5p to 110p after their 25p drop to 115p when the figures for the first half year came out just under a week ago. Twenty institutions and brokers have just been entertained at Quagline's to the way the chairman and his chief executive see prospects; there is, it seems, unlikely to be a recovery in textile machinery orders for at least a year and the important United States market is extremely sluggish. But the group is doing what it can to curb costs.

As the gold price went through \$150 there were selectively good rises on the pitch with some of the strongest performances coming from Vasil Reefs at £13.25 and General Mining £15.25, both up half a point, and Western Holdings £16.0 and Randfontein £29.0 both of which were almost £1 to the good.

A cluster of takeover and speculative issues featured Houchin 197p and Kwikform 150p both returning after suspension to close 6p and 30p better respectively.

Speculative attention brought huge gains to ERF and Fodens, the two Obesite-based lorry groups, run by different branches of the Foden family. Amid rumours of a possible takeover of both groups or that merger talks were on, ERF leapt 43p to 155p while Fodens jumped 18p to 68.

Less slight, however, Mr W. L. Foden, chairman of the Fodens group, which recently fought off a takeover bid from Rolls-Royce Motors, said that he was mystified by the rise. He denied that the group had been involved in any talks.

Redfear returned from suspension to close 20p up at 300p after news of the rejected counter offer from Rockware. Electrocomponents was another wanted and ended 12p ahead at 280p.

Issues to react from recent speculative strength were

Furness Withy, which lost 7p to 337p, Advest 4p to 288p and OH Exploration which shed 3p to 290p. Renewed strength was to be found in Turner Manufacturing 9p to 117p and Swan Hunter which ended 6p ahead at 139p.

The market is waiting somewhat anxiously to see how Vickers presents its half-year figures. The group will have had control of its nationalized aircraft interests for four months and its shipbuilding companies for the full period, but without agreed compensation comparative results may be difficult to produce.

Recent market doubts about customer resistance to confectionery products were more than dispelled by profits from Rowntree well above most market expectations. The shares jumped 21p to 394p with many dealers drawing comfort that the disappointment of recent engineering results had not been repeated.

The much anticipated figures from Arthur Bell, which were coupled with a 100 per cent

scrip, did not disappoint and the shares rose 8p to 334p. But both Laporte off 4p to 113p and RTZ down 20p to 216p were overshadowed by warnings on future profits.

There has been strong speculative support of late for vehicle suspension specialist Jonas Woodhead. In a flurry of buying yesterday the shares rose 12p to 200p. Prudential and Norwich Union together hold around 15 per cent and dealers would not be surprised if these shares went to a motor industry company.

Equity turnover on September 20 was £97.48m (18,355 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to Exchange Telegraph, were Royal Insurance, RTZ, ICI, European Ferries, BAT Dfd, Dunlop, GKN, Rowntree Mackintosh, Reed International, Shell, Dawson International, Grand Metropolitan, BP, Swan Hunter, Redfear Glas and Furness Withy.

Latest results

Company	Salas	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int or Fin	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
Armstrong Bros (I)	(—)	0.20 (0.23)	(—)	(—)	(—)	(14.63)
Arthur Bell	43.6 (40.4)	3.7 (2.2)	24.86 (15.09)	4.4 (2.97)	(—)	(6.0)
Benzon Corp (I)	19.7 (15.0)	1.1 (1.1)	(—)	1.9 (1.54)	18/11	(2.6)
Brennan Hedges	(—)	1.2 (1.1)	(—)	(—)	(—)	(—)
Britton Est (I)	(—)	1.1 (0.96)	(—)	1.2 (1.1)	(—)	(1.6)
C. Clifford Ind	5.6 (4.1)	0.08 (0.16)	(—)	NH (2.0)	(—)	(2)
Hambley Co (I)	3.4 (2.12)	0.08 (0.04)	(—)	1.7 (1.03)	3/11	(2.1)
Eagle Star Ins	(—)	19.5 (15.8)	(—)	3.0 (2.7)	13/1	(8.4)
Anthony Gibbs (I)	(—)	(—)	(—)	0.715 (0.715)	18/11	(—)
Home Cnt Nws (I)	2.8 (2.4)	0.28 (0.08)	5.36 (1.52)	1.25 (0.75)	28/10	(3.5)
Hambley Co (I)	3.4 (2.12)	0.08 (0.04)	(—)	1.7 (1.03)	3/11	(2.1)
J. B. Hedges (I)	9.5 (10.6)	0.92 (0.89)	4.46 (4.29)	0.0 (0.48)	6/1	(0.92)
Laporte Ind (I)	74.8 (60.2)	7.0 (5.2)	8.56 (6.24)	2.7 (2.1)	28/11	(5.3)
Plantain Ridge (I)	(—)	2.5 (1.2)	3.2 (1.6)	2.17 (0.86)	16/11	(1.9)
Rio Tinto-Zinc (I)	80.4 (78.8)	146.1 (122.8)	16.79 (13.03)	3.5 (3.1)	3/1	(8.0)
Rowntree Mack (I)	188.1 (155.1)	12.0 (8.9)	(—)	2.75 (2.5)	5/1	(7.3)
Stewart & Wright (I)	0.24 (0.19)	0.03 (0.03)	36.05 (27.1)	14.77 (14.77)	27/10	21.77 (21.77)
Targorin Test (I)	(—)	0.29 (0.29)	1.73 (1.73)	2.75 (2.75)	3/11	4.0 (4.0)
Tilbury Cont (I)	3.4 (2.12)	0.08 (0.04)	(—)	1.7 (1.03)	20/10	(17.9)
Wades Dept (I)	11.6 (10.6)	0.87 (0.88)	7.04 (7.23)	1.38 (1.17)	(—)	2.0 (1.80)
West City Fp (I)	2.6 (3.1)	0.22 (0.26)	6.56 (11.5)	(—)	(—)	(—)
Winn Ind (I)	9.1 (8.8)	0.52 (0.45)	(—)	1.18 (1.04)	26/11	(2.5)
Zetters Corp (I)	(—)	0.39 (0.43)	4.16 (3.11)	1.16 (1.04)	17/11	1.16 (1.04)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.515. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. a Loss. b Resigned.

All these securities having been sold, this announcement appears as a matter of record only.



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Banque de Neuchâtel, Schlumberger, Mallet	Banque Populaire Suisse S.A. Luxembourg	Banque de la Société Financière Européenne	
Banque de l'Union Européenne	Baring Brothers & Co., Limited	Bayerische Landesbank Girozentrale	Bayerische Vereinsbank
Joh. Bezenberg, Gossler & Co.	Berger Bank	Berliner Bank Aktiengesellschaft	Berliner Handels- und Frankfurter Bank
Calson des Dépôts et Consignations	Cassano & Co.	Centrale Rabobank	Chase Manhattan
Citicorp International Group	Clariden Bank	Commerzbank Aktiengesellschaft	Compagnie de Banque et d'Investissements (Unterwiesing) S.A.
Compagnie Monégasque de Banque	County Bank Limited	Crédit Commercial de France	Crédit Lyonnais
Creditanstalt-Bankverein	Credito Italiano (Chiodo) S.A.	Daiwa Europe N.V.	Delbruck & Co.
Den norske Creditbank	Deutsche Girozentrale — Deutsche Kommunalbank	DG BANK Deutsche Girozentralebank	Dillon, Read Overseas Corporation
Dominion Securities Limited	Dresdner Bank Aktiengesellschaft	Effectenbank-Warburg Aktiengesellschaft	Eurocapital S.A.
European Banking Company Limited	First Boston (Europe) Limited	First Chicago	Robert Fleming & Co. Limited
Gesellschaftliche Zentralbank AG Vienna	Antony Gibbs Holdings Ltd.	Girozentrale und Bank der Österreichischen Sparkassen Aktiengesellschaft	
Goldman Sachs International Corp.	Groupe des Banquiers Privés Genevois	Hambros Bank Limited	Hill Samuel & Co. Limited
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Composite insurance better on Eagle Star's 23pc headway

By Richard Allen

The composite insurance sector's results season ended on a firm note yesterday, with Eagle Star reporting a 23 per cent increase in its pre-tax surplus to £19.5m for the six months to June 30.

The total result was no more than the market had expected, but the news that it had been achieved despite a "most stringent" policy on outstanding claims provisions was the one for increased confidence throughout the sector. Eagle Star's own shares jumped 5p to 147p.

Reporting a "firm" jump in underwriting losses to £3.4m, the group points to its decision to provide for claims in the important motor and liability accounts on the most cautious view of inflation prospects.

A significant slowdown in inflation could thus have a powerful beneficial effect on the underwriting result for the full year especially as Eagle



Sir Dennis Mountain, chairman of Eagle Star

Star is the most United Kingdom-oriented of the seven composite majors.

However, the group yesterday declined to comment on the likelihood of any write-back at the year-end.

Meanwhile Eagle Star, with a strong bias towards the United Kingdom, has seen a 29 per cent jump in investment income to £18.3m.

Although the fall in interest rates should mean a slower rate of income growth for the rest of the year, the consequent rise in fixed interest securities has further increased the substantial solvency margin—56 per cent at the last accounting date—despite a 25 per cent gain in premium income.

Groveport Securities has chipped in a further £2.6m at the interim stage after £2.4m last time. Its profits are up from £3.1m to £3.5m and associated companies profits add £300,000 against £500,000. Pensions contributions have increased from £2.4m to £3.1m.

Declaring an interim dividend of 4.5p gross, Eagle Star is predicting the maximum increase in the total payout to provide a prospective yield of 6.3 per cent.

Laporte up but trade is getting tough again

By Ray Maughan

The upturn from the world chemicals recession which lifted Laporte Industries in the second half of 1976 began to lose momentum in the first quarter of the current year.

The group is now experiencing softening prices and narrower margins for titanium dioxide and phthalic anhydride, which account for about a fifth of the total product range.

The board, headed by Mr R. M. Ringwood, thinks that profits for the second half year this time will "not be too different from the result for the first half of the year". Pre-tax Laporte climbed £1.75m to £7.03m at the interim stage but the half-on-half comparison with last year's second half is clearly not so encouraging as the July-December period.

Sterling's strength, too, is beginning to dampen export growth. The group estimates that the net adverse effect of the pound's recovery in the first half was about five per cent.

But the peroxide business, the 50 per cent owned Interox, performed well during the half and, looking set for further growth, Laporte attributes its continued strength to its ability to find new product applications.

Thus the current £20m capital investment project lasting until the end of next year is heavily designed to speed Laporte's advance into higher quality specialist markets. This forms the basis for the investment in the titanium dioxide chloride plant at Stanborough and further spending in molecular sieves.

The £8.2m rights issue in June last enabled the board to promise a total gross dividend this year of 10.25p per share and the interim is in line with this aim at 4.1p per share. Concerned by the prospect of unpredictable international trading conditions, the shares dropped 4p yesterday to 113p where the yield is 7.9 per cent. With a p/e that is likely to come out at less than 8 this year, the shares reflect the market's awareness of the industry's potential problems.

Kloekner's cash, loss at Preussag

From Peter Norman Bonn

Kloekner-Werke AG, the West German steel group, announced that it will raise its capital by DM100m to DM447m by issuing new shares at a price of 105 per cent.

In view of the continuing slump in the West German steel industry and the fact that Kloekner paid no dividend for the past two business years, the board has decided against a normal rights issue.

Instead the group's banks and the single biggest shareholder, Internationale Industrielle Beleggen Maatschappij Amsterdam BV, which holds between 25 per cent and 50 per cent of the group will each take up half of the new shares.

The banks will hold the shares for a later offer to the free shareholders of Kloekner-Werke. They are paying up a quarter of their share of the capital increase plus the five per cent premium.

The capital increase will help finance recent acquisitions by the Kloekner-Werke Group, in particular the majority holding in the South German aluminium steel making combine.

Preussag AG, the West German metals, chemical and transport concern, said it made a loss in the second quarter of this year mainly because of a fall in the price and demand for zinc.

Antony Gibbs in £11.25m sale of key property

By Ronald Pullen

Antony Gibbs, the merchant bank two-fifths owned by Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking, is to sell its major property asset at 22 Bishopsgate in the City, as foreboded in The Times two weeks ago.

The sale to an undisclosed purchaser for £11.25m has been made necessary because the building is now too small to accommodate the recent growth of staff, and too big for just the banking division.

In the book at a March, 1972 valuation of £2.33m, around £7m has been spent on redeveloping the property. The profit from the deal will be transferred to inner reserves.

Meanwhile, after two years of strong profits recovery from the losses on the personal financial planning side, Gibbs is now forecasting a setback in full-year trading profits at the interim stage.

First half profits from banking, insurance and commodities have shown a "marked improvement" but the Gibbs Bright timber side has been held back by the Australian recession.

The interim dividend is a maintained 1.08p a share gross but the shares lost 4p to 6p where the capitalization is £8.8m.

Briefly

Kitcat places Gill & Duffus

Around 51 per cent of commodity trader and merchant, Gill & Duffus, was placed in the market yesterday by broker Kitcat & Aitken among more than 40 institutions at just under the 214p opening market price.

The holding came from Markam Holdings, a Dutch cocoa under which G & D bought some years ago. The widow of Markam's original chairman had been wanting to sell for some time.

HOME COUNTRIES NEWS

Recovery continues at Home Counties Newspapers with pre-tax profits for six months to June 30 of £25,000 against £33,000. Advertising revenue has improved.

LONDON AUSTRALIA INV Group has lost appeal to Australian High Court on assessment of years 1967-1969. It had provided for this eventually.

M. W. MARSHALL Board discussing purchase of Laser Bros, a money broking subsidiary of J. F. Cabot Equity of New York.

REMBROSE CORP. Nearly doubled interest rates held interim profits at last year's level. Order books in many operations for the second half have started well. Figures, see table.

Both bottles and whisky help Bell's to £3.8m

By Bryan Appleyard

Arthur Bell and Sons, the Scotch whisky group, made a £3.8m pre-tax profit in the six months to June 30 against £2.3m last year. Turnover went up from £40.5m to £43.7m.

The bulk of the improvement flowed from the turnaround from a £339,000 loss to a £667,000 profit at Canning Town Glass, the glass container subsidiary, on sales up from £4m to £7m.

Bell's chairman Mr Raymond Miguel said the benefit in this division had come from the restructuring of management and centralizing of operations. A total of £2m has been spent on premises and plant and another £2.5m is to be spent over the next two years.

From now Bell's financial year starts on July 1 and in these twelve months further rebuilds in the glass container division mean profits will be similar to last year.

Profits from whisky rose

from £2.6m to £3.1m with home sales turnover down from £31.5m to £30m due to overstocking ahead of duty increases and export sales turnover up by £1.3m to £5.7m.

Bell's home market volume was down by 6 per cent with its main brand and 9 per cent with The Real Mackenzie against an industry fall of 10 per cent. Export volume was up 7 per cent compared with an industry increase of 3 per cent.

Mr Miguel said that the group's Highland malt distilleries were working at full capacity. Financially the chairman said at June 30 Bell's loans and overdrafts totalled £10.4m, down £5.6m since December 31, and the board is proposing a scrip issue of one new ordinary share for each share held to improve marketability and bring the share capital more into line with capital employed.

The proposed dividend is 6.69230p against an interim of 4.5p and a final of 4.77p for the last calendar year.



Rowntree Mackintosh

Interim Report for the 24 weeks to 18th June, 1977

	1977 £'000	1976 £'000	1975 £'000
Turnover	188,100	155,100	384,921
Trading Profit	14,237	11,428	36,784
Interest paid less investment income	2,233	2,430	5,887
Profit before Taxation	12,004	8,998	30,897
Taxation	6,250	4,660	14,376
Profit after Taxation	5,754	4,338	16,521
Minority/Interests	750	530	1,655
Profit attributable to Rowntree Mackintosh Ltd. before Extraordinary Items	5,004	3,808	14,867

Notes:

- The unaudited interim figures above should be read in conjunction with the Chairman's Statement below.
- Sales and profits of overseas subsidiary companies have been converted into sterling at the respective half year and year end exchange rates.
- Taxation has been provided at 52% on UK profits; overseas tax amounts to £1.52m (1976 £1.27m).
- Extraordinary items arising in the year end accounts will consist principally of currency revaluation of overseas net assets and release of provisions on investments. At 18th June, 1977 these items would have amounted to a total credit of £1.0m.

Chairman's Statement

Dividend

The Board has declared an interim dividend of 2.75p per share (1976 2.50p per share). This dividend will absorb £1,188,000 and will be payable on 5th January 1978 to Ordinary Shareholders registered at the close of business on 7th December 1977.

Trading results

Group sales in the first half of 1977 at £188.1m were some 21% higher than the first half of 1976. All Divisions in the Group contributed to this growth; 47% of sales turnover was outside the UK.

The volume of the Group's sales also showed an increase over 1976 and brand and market share performance has been very satisfactory. Exports from the UK, which were an important source of growth in 1976, have continued to make excellent progress.

Trading profits increased in line with turnover and interest charges were marginally lower, resulting in a profit before tax of £12,004m, an increase of 33% on the previous year's figure.

Outlook

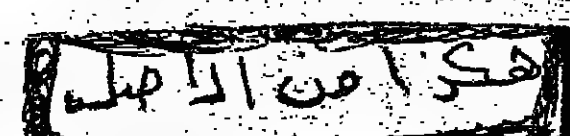
Sales and trading margins in the second half of the year have continued at satisfactory levels.

The Group's substantial capital expenditure programme for the current year of some £25m is progressing well.

Subject to the uncertainties inherent in present conditions, profits and earnings for the full year are expected to show an encouraging increase in real terms compared with 1976.

Donald Barron Chairman

Kit Kat	Quality Street	Smarties	Polo	Black Range	Good News	Homebrew's Pastilles
After Eight	Week-End	Alero	Gold	Berry Box	Tutti	Butterfingers
Blue Riband	Breakaway	Pan Yarn Pickles	Table Jellies	Sun-Pat Jams	Pearl Butter	



Group	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100	2101	2102	2103	2104	2105	2106	2107	2108	2109	2110	2111	2112	2113	2114	2115	2116	2117	2118	2119	2120	2121	2122	2123	2124	2125	2126	2127	2128	2129	2130	2131	2132	2133	2134	2135	2136	2137	2138	2139	2140	2141	2142	2143	2144	2145	2146	2147	2148	2149	2150	2151	2152	2153	2154	2155	2156	2157	2158	2159	2160	2161	2162	2163	2164	2165	2166	2167	2168	2169	2170	2171	2172	2173	2174	2175	2176	2177	2178	2179	2180	2181	2182	2183	2184	2185	2186	2187	2188	2189	2190	2191	2192	2193	2194	2195	2196	2197	2198	2199	2200	2201	2202	2203	2204	2205	2206	2207	2208	2209	2210	2211	2212	2213	2214	2215	2216	2217	2218	2219	2220	2221	2222	2223	2224	2225	2226	2227	2228	2229	2230	2231	2232	2233	2234	2235	2236	2237	2238	2239	2240	2241	2242	2243	2244	2245	2246	2247	2248	2249	2250	2251	2252	2253	2254	2255	2256	2257	2258	2259	2260	2261	2262	2263	2264	2265	2266	2267	2268	2269	2270	2271	2272	2273	2274	2275	2276	2277	2278	2279	2280	2281	2282	2283	2284	2285	2286	2287	2288	2289	2290	2291	2292	2293	2294	2295	2296	2297	2298	2299	2300	2301	2302	2303	2304	2305	2306	2307	2308	2309	2310	2311	2312	2313	2314	2315	2316	2317	2318	2319	2320	2321	2322	2323	2324	2325	2326	2327	2328	2329	2330	2331	2332	2333	2334	2335	2336	2337	2338	2339	2340	2341	2342	2343	2344	2345	2346	2347	2348	2349	2350	2351	2352	2353	2354	2355	2356	2357	2358	2359	2360	2361	2362	2363	2364	2365	2366	2367	2368	2369	2370	2371	2372	2373	2374	2375	2376	2377	2378	2379	2380	2381	2382	2383	2384	2385	2386	2387	2388	2389	2390	2391	2392	2393	2394	2395	2396	2397	2398	2399	2400	2401	2402	2403	2404	2405	2406
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LANGFORD COURT

VIEWING
Thurs. 5.7 p.m.
Fri. 12.2 p.m.

LANGFORD PLACE, ST. JOHN'S WOOD, N.W.3

- This fine purpose built block is situated in the heart of St. John's Wood, close to the best shopping and transport facilities. Modernisation having been completed we are now offering the final phase of 5 studio and 4 one bed, one recep., 1 & 2 b. flats. Amenities include:
 - * CONSTANT HOT WATER, PART CENTRAL HEATING, PASSENGER LIFTS, PORTERAGE.
 - * Prices are:
 - * STUDIO, KITCHEN AND BATHROOM £10,950-£11,500
 - * ONE BED., ONE REC., KIT. & BATH. £12,950-£16,500
 - * MORTGAGES AVAILABLE
 - * LOW OUTGOINGS
 - * 99-YEAR LEASES

All the vacant flats will be available for inspection at the above times or call: 48 Curzon Street, London, W.1. Telephone: 499 9835.

Winkworth & Co.

Properties under £25,000

MILLBANK COURT

24 JOHN ISLIP ST.,
S.W.1

2 flats now available in this luxury 1960s P/B block comprising 1 rec. rm., 1 bedroom, kit, and bathroom. Situated within easy reach of Westminster and Victoria. Amenities include porterage, lifts, entry phone, c.h. and c.h.w. Low outgoings, long leases.

Prices: £16,000

Winkworth & Co.

289 Brompton Road, S.W.3
01-584 8885

BEDFORD PARK, W.4

Purpose-built ground floor flat in Marston block, 3 rooms, kitchen and bathroom. Central heating. Communal gardens.

£12,500. 99 year lease.

MICHAEL RICHARDS & CO.,
401 Chiswick Road, W.4
Telephone 01-894 8813/2

EDWARDIAN DETACHED FAMILY HOUSE

In charming E. London village, 1/2 mile from main line station. 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, large kitchen, large garden. Large detached garage. For sale by auction. Viewed by appointment only. £35,000 o.n.e.

Rose Rotheryfield
(088 255) 2164 NOW!

Kenwood

235 Pinner Road, London W5
01-894 8813/2

GLOUCESTER TERR.

MR. HYDE PARK
Inexpensive (lower living costs)

1st FLOOR
3 bedrooms, large reception, kitchen, bathroom. Gas C.H. Long lease. £22,500

Tel.: 01-402 3141

STREATHAM SW16

Immaculate detached residence with 3,000 sq. ft. of carpet, large garden, garage, etc. Very good condition. £20,000

PAWLAK & SONS
228 Strand, London W.C.2
01-228 8798

WANDSWORTH, SW18

Close Common
Newly decorated, superior converted maisonette in a free lived street. 3 beds, sep. kit/bath, low down kitchen, 99 yr. lease, only £13,250.

JOHNSON AND PYCAFT
731 3111

WEST KENSINGTON

Sunny flat in quiet Edwardian terrace off North End. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large kitchen, large garden, garage, etc. Very good condition. £12,500 o.n.e.

PAWLAK & SONS
228 Strand, London W.C.2
01-228 8798

BRISTOL, STOKES BISHOP

Superior detached house, 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, large kitchen, large garden, garage, etc. Very good condition. £25,000

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Property

London
& Suburban
property

WHETSTONE/TOTTERIDGE

SUPERB FAMILY HOUSE
WITH LARGE
GARDEN AND
DOUBLE GARAGE

Well known and popular area. 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, large kitchen, large garden, garage, etc. Very good condition. £25,000

PAWLAK & SONS
228 Strand, London W.C.2
01-228 8798

J. TREVOR

55 GROSVENOR STREET
LONDON, W.1
01-228 8798

Sturt & Tivendale

Highgate Village
All the main of Highgate Village. 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, large kitchen, large garden, garage, etc. Very good condition. £25,000

PAWLAK & SONS
228 Strand, London W.C.2
01-228 8798

BATTERSEA PARK

3 storey house in popular road, with large garden, garage, etc. Very good condition. £25,000

PAWLAK & SONS
228 Strand, London W.C.2
01-228 8798

JACKSON ROSE & CO.

286 Kings Road, Chelsea, SW3
01-352 1088

Pembroke Mews W1

Newly modernized house, 1 reception, 2 beds, study, k.b., tiny patio. Gas C.H.

LESLIE MARSH & CO.
683 5181

MONTAGU SQ. W.1

1st/2nd floor Maisonette, overlooking this lovely quiet square. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, large kitchen, large garden, garage, etc. Very good condition. £25,000

PAWLAK & SONS
228 Strand, London W.C.2
01-228 8798

AVENUE ROAD N.W.3

Close to Regent's Park, modern 3-bed, 2-bath, flat in purpose built block. Spacious drawing room, inter-communicating with main room, large kitchen, breakfast room. Immaculate decorative condition. 87-year lease.

£75,000

NATHANIELS & DICKER

4 New Burlington Street W.1
Telephone 01-439 3021

BAYSWATER, W.2

Close to the park. Small garden, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, large kitchen, large garden, garage, etc. Very good condition. £25,000

PAWLAK & SONS
228 Strand, London W.C.2
01-228 8798

RICHMOND HILL

Early Victorian house with 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, large kitchen, large garden, garage, etc. Very good condition. £25,000

PAWLAK & SONS
228 Strand, London W.C.2
01-228 8798

JOHN GRANBY & CO.

01-749 3395

WEST KENSINGTON

Freehold detached house, 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, large kitchen, large garden, garage, etc. Very good condition. £25,000

PAWLAK & SONS
228 Strand, London W.C.2
01-228 8798

FULLY FURNISHED

Freehold detached house, 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, large kitchen, large garden, garage, etc. Very good condition. £25,000

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SECRETARIAL

CROYDON
UP TO £3,500

International Engineering Company, Croydon, Surrey. We are seeking a Secretary for our Croydon office. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the office and will be required to handle a large volume of correspondence. Salary up to £3,500 p.a. depending on experience. Please send CV to: The Personnel Manager, International Engineering Company, Croydon, Surrey. Tel: 01-894 8813/2

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ARTS COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN

Art Department Requires a SECRETARY ASSISTANT

Salary £3,054 p.a. Duties will include assisting the Secretary in the day to day running of the office and will be required to handle a large volume of correspondence. Please send CV to: The Personnel Manager, Arts Council of Great Britain, 100 Strand, London, W.C.2. Tel: 01-228 8798

St. Mary's Hospital

Medical School
(UNIVERSITY OF LONDON)
Podiatrists, London, W.2 1PG

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BOND STREET

Secretary/Receptionist
Salary £2,500 p.a.

TELEPHONE

01-493 0802

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COLLEGE LEAVER

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Secretary/P.A. £3,000 plus bonus (twice salary) to help with the purchase of a new car. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the office and will be required to handle a large volume of correspondence. Please send CV to: The Personnel Manager, 100 Strand, London, W.C.2. Tel: 01-228 8798

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DRAWING OF BONDS

CHILLAN EXTERNAL LONG TERM

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(continued on page 36)

